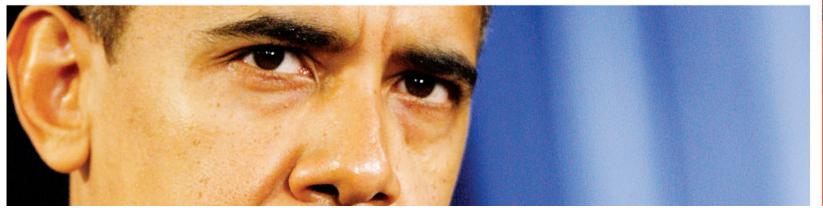


Thursday DECEMBER 11, 2008 redevechicago.com A Chicago Tribune publication * FREE * TRIBUNE, GETTY, AP PHOTOS



Lies. Fallout. Confusion. Scandal is spreading and pressure is mounting. But the best part is what everyone is [bleeping] saying PAGES 6-7



metromix ry nese

New restaurants you'll want to sink your teeth into 25

No matter what. bailout will cost you big time 3

Get to know this very important sports fan 16

Who's in and who's out in the world of TV 54



these gifts 41



2do

To shop

Start crossing people off your shopping list from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday at The Denim Lounge (43 E. Oak St.) as neighbors Lush Wine and Spirits and G Boutique swing by for sales and a wine tasting.

To wish

Drop by Erin Gallagher (1017 W. Lake St.) and neighbors Bess &

Loie and Koros on Thursday to fill out wish lists. Staff will call the people you designate to drop not-so-subtle hints. You also will have the chance to win a \$500 Erin Gallagher shopping spree.

To style

Have your photo taken for a chance to appear in Lucky magazine while getting fashion advice and enjoying free cocktails, appetizers and a performance by Cory Chisel. The event runs from 6 to 8 p.m. at Lucky Brand Jeans, The Shops at North Bridge (520 N. Michigan Ave.). RSVP: rsvp@skirtpr.com.



Aye, aye caption

funny caption for the photo (right) and we'll print the best in Friday's RedEye. To give it a shot text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to 47383. Good luck!





« WEDNESDAY'S WINNER

"Look, he may have invented the Internet, but I'm the one who used it to raise \$75 million." —Mike Beirl Random dilemma

We asked. You responded. Here are the results from Tuesday's Random Dilemma, in which we asked if you would rather be isolated for a year or be stuck with people you hate 24/7 for a year.

54%Be isolated for a year.

46% Be stuck with people you hate.

Here's another: Which would you? Text "random" and the number of your response to 47383. You'll get the poll results instantly.

(1) Know what people are saying about you behind your back OR (2) Live in ignorance



32 22

A few clouds, maybe show showers late









Windy, chance of rain 23 Chance of rain, snow

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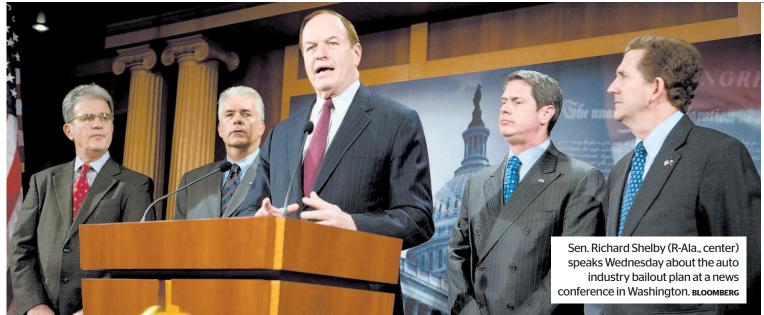
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DECEMBER 11, 2008 I REDEYE newsflash



EITHER WAY, YOU'LL PAY

WITH OR WITHOUT BAILOUT, EXPERTS SAY, AUTO INDUSTRY WILL COST TAXPAYERS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON The U.S. auto industry's problems will cost taxpayers plenty whether or not the government helps Detroit.

Just walking away and letting the struggling Big Three automakers go under would drain government coffers by about as much as the \$15 billion bridge loan that lawmakers are preparing, and perhaps much more, according to outside analysts. The costs would come from lower tax collections by the federal, state and local governments and the payment of extra unemployment, pension and other benefits to unemployed or retired auto workers.

There's sharp disagreement among outside experts about exactly what an auto industry failure would look like and how much it would cost taxpayers. But what's clear is that while no one knows how much government aid the Big Three ultimately will need, inaction also would be expensive, assuming automobile production drops and more workers lose their jobs.

The Center for Automotive Research, a non-profit organization in Ann Arbor, Mich., estimates that if Ford, General Motors and Chrysler completely stopped making cars next year but returned to 50 percent production levels in 2010 and 2011, it still would wipe out nearly 2.5 million jobs next year.

Overall, that lost employment would cost government at all levels \$50 billion next year and \$108 billion over the next three years, the center estimates, with Washington bearing most of that cost. Almost a quarter of the money would be for unemployment, welfare, health care and other costs government would have to carry, while the rest would come from lost collections of income taxes and payroll taxes that support Social Security.

In a more severe scenario in which the Big Three halted all U.S. operations completely, the three-year cost to taxpayers would be \$156 billion in lost tax revenue and higher spending, the center says.

The conservative Heritage Foundation, how-

BAILOUT IN LIMBO

Majority Democrats and the Bush White House have finalized a deal to speed \$14 billion in emergency loans to struggling U.S. automakers, congressional officials said Wednesday. But strong opposition lingered among some Republicans and it still was unclear whether the measure would pass.

ever, says such projections are far too dismal.

William Beach, a senior fellow in economics at the thinktank, says it is likelier that the Detroit automakers would declare bankruptcy but continue reduced operations as they try to re-emerge as leaner but stronger companies. During this lull, foreign auto companies in the U.S. would see their sales increase and would hire additional workers, cushioning much of the blow to government budgets.

The result: 453,000 lost jobs in the first year from the Big Three, their suppliers and spin-off jobs, Heritage estimates. Beach said this would mean a 2009 cost to federal taxpayers of just over \$13 billion: \$12.7 billion in tax collections and nearly \$600 million for unemployment insurance, food stamps and other expenditures.

Glove stories

Michael Jackson's glittery glove is going on the auction block.

The glove, which inspired countless copycats, quips and Halloween costumes after it was unveiled in the 1983 video for "Billie Jean," will be part of a five-day auction in April, Julien's Auctions announced Wednesday. Jackson plans to donate a portion of the proceeds to MusiCares, The Associated Press reports.

Jacko's glove is just one in a long line of hand covers that have made their mark over the years. Here are some others:

O.J. Simpson

The former football star awkwardly tried on the bloody gloves during his murder trial in 1995. "If it doesn't fit, you must acquit," defense attorney Johnnie Cochran famously told the court.

Sylvester Stallone

The boxing gloves the star wore in "Rocky II" are in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. Nice going, Rock.

Beyonce

The singer has trotted out a freaky robot glove, said to be made of titanium, at recent awards shows and in her "Single Ladies" video.

Madonna

In her '80s heyday, the Material Girl sported white lace gloves—and many fashion imitators.

Mickey Mouse

The beloved cartoon character inexplicably wears only big white gloves, shoes and red shorts.

TRIBUNE



THE DIGIT

\$1,000,000,000

The federal government registered a record budget deficit for the month of November, the Treasury Department reported Wednesday, and remains on track to hit a record deficit of \$1 trillion or more for the entire year, which would be more than double the previous all-time high set last year.









FOUR
MARK
BAZER
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March of the Blago-knights Oh, man, you should been there on Tuesday. Forget to bleen in Ohama's poor excuse for a rally in that clicked

Oh, man, you should been there on Tuesday. Forget that mother-bleepin' Obama's poor excuse for a rally in that cliche-of-all-cliches location, Grant Park, back on that gorgeous-schmorgeous November evening. You wanna see a real Chicago political rally? Again, you should been there in the snow and rain on Tuesday.

Where? The Ravenswood Manor Playlot, of course. Best darn park in the city. And, let me tell you, the place was a-hoppin' Tuesday. You wanted to go on the tire swing? Well, you better've been prepared to wait.

But no matter, we were there for a higher purpose, to support our besieged governor in his time of need. And so we huddled together, drawing warmth from our solidarity. "Blagojevich for President in 2016!" we shouted, and held aloft our signs featuring the campaign's official slogan: "PARACHUTE METHERE!"

There comes a time in every man's life when he must stand up for what he believes in. And for those of us who believe in selling Senate seats to the highest bidder, or trying to get editorial writers fired, or keeping money away from children's hospitals, or having wives who shout out things while we're on the phone that simultaneously support us/emasculate us, well, the time is now!

And so, on Tuesday, we trudged over to the Northwest Side. To paraphrase Joni Mitchell, singing of another righteous gathering: "I came upon a child of God / He was walking along the road / And I asked him, where are you going? /And this he told me / I'm going on down to Ravenswood Manor Playlot."

First, just a couple of us. Then more trickled in. And then more. And, finally, there were eight.

Of course, there were the others, those who, for better or worse, are always on hand for an event of such magnitude. The small-time sidewalk capitalists, hawking T-shirts. OK, they were leftover Obama T-shirts, but so what? And even though ours was a peaceful gathering, we saw that the city had sent out the riot police, disguised as a snowplow crew.

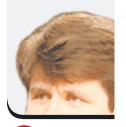
For hours, it seemed, we waited and waited, cautiously optimistic. That moment we all knew—but didn't want to get too prematurely giddy about—would happen. And then it did happen. The governor, his attorney proclaimed, was "sad, surprised and innocent"!

As the news made its way through the crowd, there was a sustained roar. And then the party really began—and didn't stop. We hugged, we cried, we told each other to go [bleep] ourselves.

And then He appeared, dressed in the official gubernatorial sweatsuit. "You eight people are the true Friends of Blagojevich!" he exclaimed, to thunderous ovation.

And as he launched into some story comparing his plight to that of Elvis' before his comeback special, our minds drifted: "Where was the governor's wife?" we wondered. And so we chanted, "Hold up that [bleeping] Cubs [bleep]! [Bleep] them!" until she appeared.

And, as some of us danced and some of us burned copies of the Tribune editorial page over a Park District garbage can to keep warm, I looked at the flames and thought, "It's all so [bleeping] golden."



BLAGO NEWS

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COVERSTORY ★ REDEYE I THURSDAY

STATEOF CONFUSION

Obama, Jackson Jr. speak out as G-Rod saga thrusts Illinois into spotlight

RedEye

Illinois—or, as Stephen Colbert called it on his show, the "Land of Stinkin'"—woke up Wednesday to find itself the talk of the country, if not the laughingstock of the country.

It wasn't too long ago that Chicago was the envy of the world, as millions tuned in to watch the celebration unfold after Barack Obama won the presidency.

Tuesday's arrest of Gov. Blago-jevich at his Northwest Side home turned the tables. Video clips rehashing the governor's profane phone conversations—secretly recorded for the FBI—dragged the state's ugly political tradition back into the limelight. Allegations of fraud and corruption detailed in the FBI's criminal complaint against Blagojevich also raised questions about whom else his alleged actions might taint, including Obama and Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr.

But mostly, Chicagoans were wondering: What the [bleep] happened? And what's next?

Here, RedEye sorts out fact and fiction. TRIBUNE, NEWS SERVICES CONTRIBUTED.



Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-III., center) leaves a news conference Wednesday at the U.S. Captiol in Washington, D.C. GETTY IMAGES



Obama: Step down

His career in shreds, Gov. Blagojevich clung defiantly to power Wednesday, ignoring a call to step down from President-elect Obama and a warning that Senate Democrats will not let him appoint a new senator from the state.

"Everyone is calling for his head," said Barbara Flynn Currie, a leader in the Illinois Senate.

Democrats in Washington edged away from calls for a special election to fill Obama's place in the Senate, hoping that Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn would soon become governor and fill the vacancy on his own. That would assure the party of holding the seat, and on a far faster timetable than any balloting would allow.

Ensconced in his downtown office, Blagojevich gave no sign he was contemplating resigning, and dispatched his spokeswoman, Kelley Quinn, to say it was "business as usual" in his 16th-floor suite.

"The top priority for our office is to serve the people, and we have not lost sight of that," Kelley Quinn said.



Jackson 5?

Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. said Wednesday he sought appointment to Barack Obama's Senate seat but denied offering favors in return to Blagojevich and said he was not involved "whatsoever in any wrongdoing."

A lawyer for Jackson acknowledged that the Illinois Democrat is "Senate Candidate

5" in the 76-page federal complaint filed against Blagojevich. Wiretapped conversations suggest Blagojevich felt the candidate would raise campaign money for him in exchange for being appointed to the Senate seat vacated by the president-elect.

Jackson said he spoke with the U.S. attorney's office Tuesday. "They shared with me that I am not a target of the investigation and that I am not accused of any misconduct," he said.

Jackson said he met with Blagojevich on Monday in Chicago for 90 minutes to discuss the Senate vacancy. It was their first meeting in about four years, he said.

ON THE COVER: (FROM THE TOP) Rod Blagojevich, Patricia Blagojevich, Jesse Jackson Jr., Barack Obama

7 DECEMBER 11, 2008 ▮ REDEYE



Greenlee

Inner circle collapsing

One of Blagojevich's top deputies resigned Wednesday after being tied to the rampant corruption scandal surrounding the governor, the first member of the governor's

inner circle to fall amid the accusations.

Illinois Deputy Gov. Bob Greenlee stepped down a day after Blagojevich was arrested on federal corruption charges.

The complaint against Blagojevich

identifies a "Deputy Governor A" who is deeply involved in an alleged scheme to strong-arm the Chicago Tribune on the orders of the governor and his wife. When asked if his client was the deputy governor, Greenlee's attorney did not dispute that his client is "Deputy Governor A."

David Stetler told The Associated Press the reason behind Greenlee's resignation "should be obvious."

He wouldn't say whether his client was cooperating with federal authorities in the probe.

Easy there, sailor If the wiretapped dialogue in the crim-

inal complaint against Blagojevich reveals anything, it's that the governor can deftly hold his own in the pantheon of political profanity. An unflattering portrait of his wife, Patricia, emerged as well. "Hold up that [bleeping] Cubs

The number of times the "f-word" is contained in the complaint against Blago-

jevich, according

to thehill.com.

[bleep]," she is quoted as saying in the complaint. "[Bleep] them."

A cleaned-up version of the complaint would be cratered with blacked-out f-bombs, etiquette experts and anti-cursing crusaders say the

language, which once would have made the nation blush, now comes across as almost de rigueur.

"Whether it's the governor or anybody else now, the shock effect, the surprise, is all gone," said Jim O'Connor, the Lake Forest-based author of "Cuss Control," a guide to breaking the bad-word habit. "Some people are still offended by it and think it's unprofessional, but I don't think it's shocking anymore."

Which doesn't mean it shouldn't be. Certainly Blagojevich's language was overshadowed by the criminal accusations against him. But many say a public official, even in supposedly private conversations, should be held to a higher standard of discourse.

"You expect more from a governor," said Barbara Pachter, an expert on business etiquette. "You don't always get it, but you expect more. This is just lousy behavior. We don't want our governors to be drunken sailors."



City's Olympic bid seems safe

Any overall effect of Blagojevich's legal problems on Chicago's 2016 Olympics bid may have been lessened because Chicago 2016 officials never have emphasized his role in the bid.

"It's very sad if the charges are proved, but I don't think it will affect the Chicago bid one way or another," Richard Carrion, a member of the International Olympic Committee Executive Board, said Wednesday.

However, the bid could hinge on Blagojevich's one significant contribution, announced just before the U.S. Olympic Committee chose Chicago over L.A. as the U.S. candidate in 2007: a pledge of \$150 million in state funds as part of \$1.15 billion in financial guarantees the bid is offering.

The guarantee is a major issue because Chicago is the only one of the four finalists without the full backing of government entities. The host city is chosen in October.

THAT'S WHAT THEY SAID

G-Rod's corruption allegations gave TV hosts and others plenty to make fun of. Here's a look at some of the punch lines.

- » "III. Gov. Rod Blagojevich is arrested on corruption charges. It's gonna take a huge bribe to get him out of this one."
- -Stephen Colbert, Tuesday night on "The Colbert Report"
- » "Holy effin" bleep. Is this guy a governor or Lil Wayne?"
- -Jon Stewart, Tuesday night on "The Daily
- "It's one count of bribery, one count of fraud and one count of Blagojeviching.'
- -David Letterman, Tuesday night on "Late
- The Las Vegas Wranglers are "honoring" Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich by giving a prime game seat to the highest bidder. The seat will be auctioned off at the Jan. 30 game against the Victoria Salmon Kings.

fakebook

profile friends inbox 769,632,342,943,985,123,658,567



Rod Blagojevich had the worst b-day ever

What your Facebook profile would look like ... if you had cooler and more powerful friends. On Thursday, RedEye took a crack at Rod Blagojevich's "Fakebook" profile. And yes, those links and Twitter comments are real.

News Feed Status Updates Photos



Rod Blagojevich is trying to figure out why his approval rating fell from 13 percent on Tuesday to 1 percent on Thursday. Was it something I said?

3 minutes ago - 1 Comment

Patrick Fitzgerald at 9:57 a.m. Dec. 11

"Yeah, it was something you said."



Patti Blagojevich is no longer a fan of The Media.

7 minutes ago — Comment



Rod Blagojevich, Pop Machine recommended some Elvis Presley music you might like, including "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" "Put the Blame on Me" and "A Little Less Conversation." Click here to purchase: http://bit.ly/124Z2

@sannm7 posted a comment on Twitter: "Giving up the f-word, thanks to Blagojevich and his wife." 29 minutes ago - Comment



RedEye has invited you to join the group Rick Astley For Governor of Illinois. http://bit.ly/DEGJ

46 minutes ago – 1 Comment

RedEye at 9:14 a.m. Dec. 11

"We strongly believe that Rick Astley would be a governor that would never run around and desert you. He'd never make you cry. He'd never say goodbye. He'd never tell a lie and hurt you."



Paul Shaffer wrote on David Letterman's Wall: "The past week. Interesting. Past week. I heard it was the whole week."

1 hour, 34 minutes ago - Comment



David Letterman wrote on Paul Shaffer's wall: "Hey, Paul, I have a fun fact here: Did you know that nothing on the State of Illinois Web page has been updated in the past week?"

2 hours ago - Comment



Rod Blagojevich is a little freaked out that my horoscope.com horoscope for Wednesday was: "An early morning sun/moon clash may well create a few minor tensions in the workplace."

3 hours, 15 minutes ago - Comment

@Aimee_B_Loved posted a comment on Twitter: "So THAT's Blagojevich. I thought CNN started airing reruns of 'Dr. 90210.'" 5 hours ago - Comment



RedEye posted a news story. Source: newyorker.com **EXCERPTS FROM "BLAGOJEVICH! THE MUSICAL"**

Rod Blagojevich: My numbers are bad / There's no denying it /

've tried and I've tried / But the voters aren't buying it 9 hours ago - 1 Comment

RedEye at 1 a.m. Dec. 11

"The rest is hi-larious! newyorker.com/online/blogs/goingson/ blagojevich-the-musical.html"



Tony Rezko sent Rod Blagojevich a cupcake.

15 hours, 56 minutes ago — Comment

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Killeen McClowry of Chicago (left) marches with others Wednesday in front of Cook County's Marriage License Bureau to push for equal marriage rights as part of the "Day Without a Gay" event in Chicago. кин таканазні/тrівине

NOGAY DAY NATIONAL RALLY DAY DRAWS NEARLY 100

Chicago Tribune

School administrator Michael Wright was one of nearly 100 people who called in sick or took time off Wednesday to join the "Day Without a Gay" protest outside the Cook County Building.

Protesters carried rainbow flags or handlettered signs-Wright's read "Don't Tread on Me"—as part of the national rally day, a reaction to California's voter-approved ban on gay marriage last month.

Supporters were asked to call in sick and not

buy anything Wednesday in an attempt to show the gay community's economic impact.

"We don't have the same rights, and it's unjust," said Wright, 42, an Andersonville resident. "It's just time [for change]. It's really basic human rights."

After picketing outside, the protesters dropped their signs and walked inside the county clerk's offices, where about a half-dozen couples asked to apply for marriage licenses. Illinois law limits marriage to a man and a woman, and

the couples were turned away.

"This country was based on religious freedom, safety from persecution of all kinds ... and they're taking all those rights from us," said Aaron Palmer, 24, who sought a marriage license with his boyfriend, Willie Steele, 44, a database administrator who took the afternoon off.

Though she is straight, Columbia College student Tiffany Young said her support for gay issues deepened when she began dating her boyfriend, whose father is gay.

Window factory workers reach an agreement

From news services

Workers approved a \$1.75 million agreement, ending a sit-in that lasted six days at the Republic Windows & Doors factory on Goose Island.

U.S. Rep. Luis Gutierrez said Wednesday that each former Republic Windows & Door employee will get eight weeks' salary, all accrued vacation pay and two months' paid health care. He says it works out to about \$7,000 for each worker.

The deal came after more than 15 hours of negotiations involving Bank of America, JP Morgan Chase & Co., which is a co-owner of the company, union representatives and state officials and lawmakers.

It then was put to a vote of union members at the factory.

The plant's owners, union leaders and Bank

of America forged the agreement Wednesday. Gutierrez says \$1.75 million will go into an

escrow account for the workers.

Bank of America spokeswoman Julie Westermann says the company loaned \$1.35 million. Gutierrez says JPMorgan Chase & Co. added \$400,000.

Workers began their sit-in after the plant gave them three days' notice that it was closing.

Man's death cold-related

An eighth cold-related death has been recorded in Cook County. An unidentified man in his 40s was found in the 2600 block of East 89th Street on Monday, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office. An autopsy Tuesday found he had died of cold exposure and diabetic ketoacidosis, a complication from diabetes.

CTA ridership spike

High gas prices and free rides offered to senior citizens propelled CTA ridership so far in 2008 to its highest level in 16 years, officials said Wednesday. More than 500 million rides were taken on CTA buses and trains so far this year, officials said. The last time the CTA provided more than a half-billion rides was in 1992, when total ridership for the year was 508 million rides.

Daley names new chief of staff

Mayor Daley has named a new chief of staff to replace his top aide, who's leaving to become president of the Chicago 2016 committee. Daley appointed Paul Volpe, 45, to the post Wednesday. Volpe has been the city's chief financial officer. Before that, he was the city's budget director. Volpe replaces Lori Healy, who has been Daley's chief of staff since last year. The staff changes are among several others announced recently. Last week, budget director Bennett Johnson III resigned.

15 arrested in raid

Federal agents arrested 15 suspected illegal immigrants Wednesday at the BP oil refinery plant in Whiting, Ind., officials at U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement announced in a news release. The janitorial workers, all but one of whom was from Mexico, were employed by United Building Maintenance in Carol Stream, officials said. A company official there declined to comment.

10 news

Do these genes make me look fat?

Associated Press

Scientists may have figured out one reason some people reach for the french fries instead of an apple.

It could be a gene that's been linked to an increased risk of obesity.

A study of children found those with a common variation of the gene tend to overeat high-calorie foods. They ate 100 extra calories per meal, which over the long term can put on weight, said Colin Palmer, who led the study at the University of Dundee in Scotland.

The findings don't mean that everyone with that version of the gene will eat too much and become obese, he said. They just might have a tendency to eat more fattening foods.

"It's still your choice," he said. "This gene will not make you overweight if you do not overeat."

Palmer said the results support the theory that childhood obesity today could be connected to the widespread availability and low cost of high-calorie foods.

The research is published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Scientists studied more than 2,700 Scottish children ages 4 to 10 and put a group of them through extensive tests.

Nearly two-thirds of the children had at least one copy of the gene variant, about the same proportion found in last year's study of mostly white Europeans.

That study found that those with one copy of the gene variant had a 30 percent increased risk of obesity, and carriers of two copies had almost a 70 percent increased risk.

The gene variation also is found in other populations; the frequency in Chinese is about half that of Europeans.

On average, those with the gene variant ate 100 calories more than those without it.

Dr. Rudolph Leibel, an obesity researcher at Columbia University in New York, said getting good measurements of how much someone eats is difficult, but the Scottish study did it in a closely controlled manner.



Starbucks takes high road in coffee wars

New York Times News Services

SEATTLE McDonald's has erected a billboard in sight of Starbucks headquarters declaring, "four bucks is dumb."

If Dunkin' Donuts' taste test commercials were the schoolyard equivalent of blowing spitballs at the coffee giant from afar, then McDonald's latest is like pulling a wedgie. Starbucks employees driving northbound can see the billboard on their way into the city.

Another billboard slogan jabs, "large is the new grande." The two phrases are displayed on 140 billboards in western Washington, some of them near Starbucks cafes.

"The billboard placement was done because we picked high-visibility locations," said Alan Finkelstein, who owns four McDonald's in King County. "We really wanted to point out that ordering an espresso at McDonald's is quick and simple. Small, medium and large. It's easy."

Earlier this year, McDonald's started **unsnobbycoffee.com** to promote the launch of espresso drinks in the Seattle market.

While the coffee wars received much media and Wall Street trumpeting this year, Starbucks has been mostly silent, maintaining that its customer base is different.

Instead, it is fighting back in a more subtle way. Executives have hinted that Starbucks is taking the high road.

"We get a lot of questions on the competition and that everyone seems to be picking on Starbucks through their advertising and try to reposition Starbucks as expensive or snobby, and, boy, when is Starbucks going to start advertising and join in that coffee conversation?" Starbucks Chief Marketing Officer Terry Davenport told investors last week in New York

"We're not going to get into that conversation. We're not going to get sucked into the, 'My coffee is better than your coffee,' price point type of coffee conversation. We're going to play at a much higher level."

During an interview that aired this week with CBS anchor Katie Couric, Starbucks Chief Executive Howard Schultz made clear

STARBUCKS' AD STRATEGY

Starbucks is relatively new to the advertising game after two decades of building its brand on word of mouth. However, armed with newly hired advertising agency BBDO New York, Starbucks placed two commercials recently. One, which ran during the "Saturday Night Live" show before Election Day, advertised that Starbucks would give out free coffee Nov. 4.

his feelings about one of the rivals.

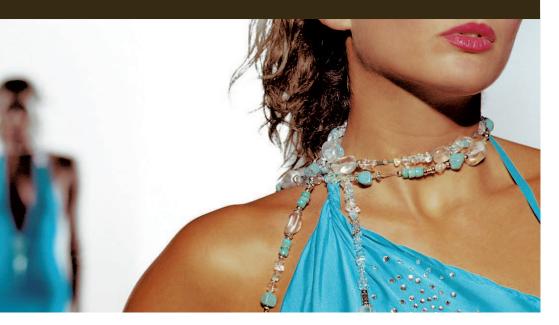
"I think the way we deal with that is not to respond to something that's that frivolous," he said. "Are you going to say to your friend, 'Let's go meet at Dunkin' Donuts?" Are you going to say that?"

It's unclear whether McDonald's will take its "four bucks is dumb" campaign national.

Says Starbucks chief marketer Davenport: "The answer to how we're going to respond to the competition is we're not going to respond. We're going to keep doing what we do and we're going to keep doing it our way."







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from news services **nation/world** DECEMBER 11, 2008 ▮ REDEYE

\$24.3 million

A rare blue diamond handed down through generations of German royalty sold for a record-breaking \$24.3 million at auction Wednesday in London, Christie's said. The Wittelsbach Diamond, a 35.56 carat cushion-shaped gem, often has had its color and clarity compared to the famed Hope Diamond, now on display at the Smithsonian.

U.S. praises Pakistan

The top U.S. military officer says he likes what he sees so far in Pakistan's response to the terror attacks in next-door India.

Mee-ouch!

Santa Claus posed with a very large kitty on his lap—and now he might need rabies shots. Jonathan Bebbington was playing the part at an event in Hamilton Township, N.J., when he was bitten Sunday. The cat and owner disappeared. At least one person thought it was a bobcat.

Wild weather down south

Winter is really hitting the deep South hard. Sleet was possible in areas of Louisiana, and the National Weather Service issued a winter weather watch for parts of Mississippi, warning that a rare snowfall accumulation was possible.

Stocks resume climb

Wall Street climbed Wednesday, rising in late trading as a surge in gold and other commodities prices gave investors a reason to feel generous. But investors still are extremely wary about the many trouble spots in the global economy.

Police in jail

A Greek court ordered Wednesday that two policemen be held in jail pending their trial for a teenage boy's fatal shooting-a death that has sparked five days of intensive riots in cities across the country.

Swift crash probe urged

6 California Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer joined the call for the Marine Corps to review its entire fleet of F/A18-D Hornet jets for possible problems after a fiery crash Monday killed two young girls, their mother and their grandmother in San Diego.

British debate 'Suicide TV'

7 LONDON The scene is difficult to watch, even for viewers inured to the subject of dying by a steady diet of violent Hollywood and TV fare.

Craig Ewert, a former computer scientist from Chicago, is shown lying in bed with his wife at his side while he takes barbiturates. He asks for a glass of apple juice to mask the bad taste and help him swallow. Then he uses his teeth to turn off his ventilator-and dies on camera.

Britain's obsession with reality TV reached new heights-or depths-Wednesday night with the broadcast of the assisted suicide of the 59-year-old terminally ill American at a Swiss clinic.

Showing the final moment of death had long been a final taboo, even for no-holdsbarred British TV, where sex and violence are common, and the broadcast unleashed debate on an issue that strongly divides public opinion.

Photographs of Ewert's final moments dominated Britain's newspaper front pages Wednesday-"SUICIDE TV" screamed one tabloid-and prompted a debate in Parliament, where Prime Minister Gordon Brown was quizzed about the propriety of the decision to air the program.

Before he died, Ewert said taking his own life would mean less suffering for himself and his family.

Mary Ewert wrote in the British press Wednesday that her husband had been enthusiastic about having his final moments televised.

"He was keen to have it shown because when death is hidden and private, people don't face their fears about it," she said, adding that he wanted viewers to understand that assisted suicide allowed him to die comfortably rather than enduring a long, drawn-out and painful demise.





BIGGS ARMY AIRFIELD, Texas The space shuttle Endeavour made a pit stop in Texas on its way to Cape Canaveral, Fla. A jumbo jet with the shuttle riding piggyback left Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., on Wednesday morning. The shuttle, depending on weather, will arrive at Kennedy Space Center in Florida either Thursday or Friday. AP РНОТО

names



Obama

Presidentelect Obama has decided he'll use his middle name when he takes the oath of office. During

campaign, Obama's detractors often would invoke his middle name, Hussein, in an attempt to falsely paint him as a Muslim. Obama, a Christian, doesn't care.

"I think the tradition is that they use all three names, and I will follow the tradition, not trying to make a statement one way or another," Obama told the Tribune. "I'll do what everybody else does."





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Remember the day after the election, when he dropped his daughters off at school wearing his beloved White Sox hat? Or when he headed off to the gym, wearing that same hat? TV newscasts around the country mentioned Obama and that hat 60 times in the three days after the election alone, the White Sox found—a number that equates

to millions of viewers.

"To have the first fan be a White Sox fan is a pretty cool thing," White Sox spokesman Scott Reifert said.

Don't let those spindly legs fool you: Obama works out on a regular basis, walking on the treadmill and lifting weights. He bikes, though

his speed is more leisurely rides with his daughters. He plays the occasional round of golf, and Golf Digest thought enough of his game to rank him eighth among the 15 presidents who golfed. The list appears in the January issue.

But you don't need to be spotted the H, O, R and S to know what his sport of choice is.

Pick-up games were a regular part of his schedule on primary days during the campaign, and if you're thinking middle-age guys down at the rec center, think again. Depending upon who was around, there was some serious hooping going on.

He scrimmaged with North Carolina a few weeks after they'd made the Final Four. Reggie Love, his personal aide, won an NCAA title at Duke and was the Blue Devils' captain in 2004-05. Craig Robinson, Obama's brother-in-law, played at Princeton and now coaches Oregon State.

"Lately he's focused all his time on dealing with the economy and putting together his administration," Giannoulias said. "But he used to be a huge fan of 'SportsCenter.' He loves watching sports."

White Sox General Manager Ken Williams learned that a long time ago. Whenever he sees Williams, he peppers the GM with questions about the team, always showing particular concern about the pitching.

"It's one thing when he would ask me about pitching as a senator, but now he's going to ask the question as president, and I have to say, 'Mr. President," Williams said. "I have to answer to the highest office now."

That's tame compared to Obama's feelings on the BCS. He's made it clear he has no love for college football's current method of crowning a national champion, favoring an eight-team playoff system instead.

"I don't know any serious fan of college football who has disagreed with me on this," he said during an interview with "60 Minutes" last month. "So I'm going to throw my weight around a little bit."

Obama smiled after he said that. But for those who think his opinion won't have an impact, they might remember where the forward pass came from.

The flying wedge was all the rage in college football in the 1890s and early 1900s, a mass formation that was simple, successful—and shockingly violent. After 18 players died and 149 were seriously injured during the 1905 season, President Teddy Roosevelt demanded something be done. His meetings with officials from Harvard, Princeton and Yale led to the formation of the NCAA.

That, in turn, led to the outlawing of the flying wedge—and the introduction of the forward pass.

DECEMBER 11, 2008 I REDEYE ★

Obama's White (Sox) House

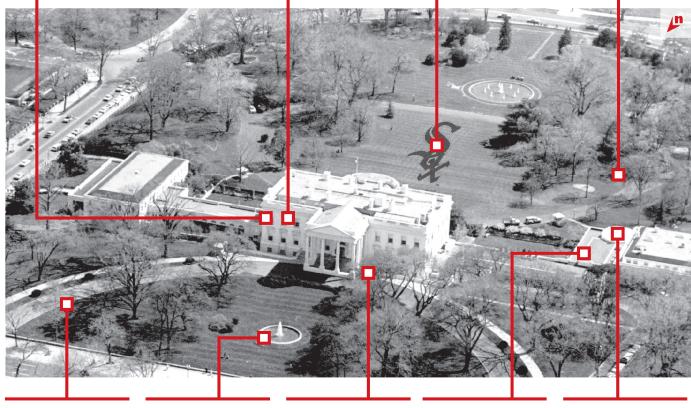
Every president makes additions to the White House to reflect his own sporting tastes. Here's how the White House might be altered if President-elect Obama gave in to temptation and had it decked out to make him feel right at home.

He has a Pop-a-Shot installed in the master bedroom.

The living room in the residence is renovated with flat-screen TVs and seats imported from the torn-down Chicago Stadium.

A White Sox logo is painted on the back lawn.

He replaces the old half-court outdoor basketball court with an exact replica of the Berto Center.



On Saturdays, the White House driveway is opened for tailgaters.

The new "Exploding Fountain" in the front yard goes off after each White Sox home run. The White House bowling alley is replaced with Jimbo's bar.

Popcorn and chicken wings are served during cabinet meetings.

He has a black and silver phone installed in the Oval Office that goes directly to White Sox GM Ken Williams.

Congressmen want to punt BCS system

A member of Congress on Wednesday said he planned to introduce legislation that would force college football to adopt a playoff to determine the national champion.

Rep. Joe Barton, a Republican from Texas, didn't specify what sort of playoff he wants—only that the BCS should go.

He said the bill—also being co-sponsored by Rep. Bobby Rush, an Illinois Democrat—"will prohibit the marketing, promotion, and advertising of a postseason

game as a 'national championship' football game, unless it is the result of a playoff system."

When a subcommittee held a hearing about the BCS in 2005, lawmakers said they weren't going to pursue legislation.

"The BCS method of determining who is No. 1 consistently misfires," Barton said Wednesday. "Simply exposing the flaws and subjecting them to discussion ... hasn't led to improvement."

The BCS was created in 1998 by the six

most powerful conferences. Since then, the system has been tweaked to make it easier for teams from smaller conferences to qualify for the top games. There are four traditional BCS bowls—the Rose, Orange, Sugar and Fiesta—and a championship game between the top two teams in the BCS standings, which are based on two human polls and six computer ratings.

This season, Florida (12-1) and Oklahoma (12-1) will meet in the BCS title game Jan. 8 in Miami. AP

Even the NFL has cuts

Roger Goodell's secretary and I have one frightening thing in common: layoffs.

Working for a Tribune newspaper for the past three years, I've had time to prepare for my company's murky fate. But how in the name of Lombardi did the NFL run into financial problems?



HANNON J. WENS

redeyesports @tribune.com

The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday that America's most lucrative sports organization will be forced to cut 150 league jobs, or 14 percent of its total staff in the next 60 days.

Teams will not be affected as they are individually run by clubs, but heads will roll at organizations like **nfl.com**, NFL films, the NFL headquarters and the NFL Network.

A lesson to the high school juniors taking economics: There are two sure ways you know the country is in a recession. I) When the pigskin isn't paying anymore and 2) when your half-wit of a state governor is allegedly selling U.S. senate seats.

Yes folks, things really are that bad. But for the sake of saving America's second Sunday religion, I've devised a list of cost-cutting measures for Goodell.

- 1. Increase the interest on league fines to 50 percent—meaning Plaxico Burress would forfeit his 2008 salary.
- 2. Tap into Brett Favre's retirement fund a little early because he'll play at least until 65 years of age.
- **3.** Start charging a fee for fans seated next to Jessica Simpson and Kim Kardashian.
- **4.** Sell 12 packs of beer for \$100 each. Drunk people = big spenders.
- **5.** Fine Emmitt Smith for every grammatically incorrect word he speaks.
- **6.** Start manufacturing a generic NFL brand of steroids.
- **7.** Sell locks of Troy Polamalu's hair to balding men.
- **8.** Charge the Pittsburgh Steelers \$50 for each time Ben Roethlisberger gets sacked.
- **9.** Fine teams for every unfilled seat. That means the Jacksonville Jaguars are in trouble.
- **10.** Charge cheerleaders \$1 per pound of silicone.

SHANNON J. OWENS IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

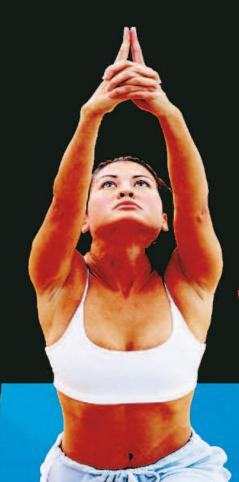




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HOMETOWN HITS



BLACKHAWKS 2. SENATORS 0

Cristobal Huet stopped 23 shots to earn his first shutout with the Hawks, and Patrick Kane scored

an early goal in a 2-0 win over Ottawa on Wednesday night. Kane scored a powerplay goal 5:17 into the game. Chicago got its second goal on an empty-netter from Troy Brouwer with 40 seconds left.



Peavy deal in limbo

General Manager Jim Hendry was mum on the Cubs' progress in the winter meetings, though he said

he spoke with representatives of three or four free agents and thinks he will be able to sign a quality player. Switch-hitter Milton Bradley remains the front-runner, with Raul Ibanez and Bobby Abreu also in the picture. Padres GM Kevin Towers told the San Diego Union-Tribune that progress is being made in talks with the Cubs regarding Jake Peavy, but added: "[Hendry] and I both kind of agree that if we can't come to some sort of an agreement by Thursday, it's probably not going to happen."



Sox staying put

General Manager Ken Williams seemed content to probably leave the annual winter meetings

Thursday without completing a deal. But at least one opposing general manager suspected that the trades of Nick Swisher and Javier Vazquez that cleared nearly \$17 million for 2009 have paved the way for Williams to land a marquee free agent. Williams, however, said much of the recent savings was reinvested in the acquisition of Cuban third baseman Dayan Viciedo, whose \$11 million signing could be announced Friday.

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

» Illinois 89, Chicago State 50 » Morgan State 79, DePaul 75

HIT AND RUN

BOXING Pacquiao-De La Hoya fight a moneymaker

The Manny Pacquiao-Oscar De La Hoya fight last Saturday night generated about \$70 million in revenue, HBO said, making it the most successful pay-per-view event in 2008.

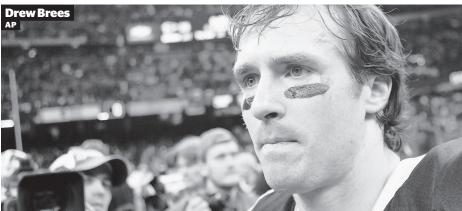
ARENA FOOTBALL 2009 season saved

The Arena Football League has voted not to suspend play in 2009, a sharp reversal in a tumultuous week in which the indoor league was poised to cancel next season.

NHL Sakic loses fight with snow blower

Colorado's Joe Sakic's, already out with back problems, broke three fingers on his left hand when he tried to clear snow from a snow blower at his home and will be out at least three months.





Bears-Saints boils down to QB play

As the Bears and New Orleans Saints prepare for another high-stakes game at Soldier Field on Thursday night, the quarterbacks couldn't help but drift back to a different time, when Drew Brees was wrapping up a record-setting run at Purdue and Kyle Orton was wondering if he should follow him.

As a high school senior, Orton was thinking about reneging on his commitment to Purdue in favor of Colorado. A conversation at an Elite 11 football camp in California with Brees, a counselor, doused that thought.

"I told him, 'You can do whatever you want to do, but, if you want to get a great education, want to have a chance to start four years, play in the Big Ten and throw the ball 50 times a game, then you should come to Purdue,'" said Brees, Purdue's all-time passing leader with 11,792 yards. "It was really that simple."

Orton recalled: "It was good advice."

Brees probably wasn't offering any tips this week—not with so much at stake.

Two years ago, the Bears beat the Saints in the NFC championship game at Soldier Field and, last year, they squashed New Orleans' playoff hopes on the final day of the season. Now, at 7-6, both teams are trying to keep their playoff hopes alive without much

room for error.

The Bears have to figure out a way to contain the league's top offense and the prolific Brees, who with 4,100 yards passing is challenging Dan Marino's single-season record. They also need a steady effort from Orton, coming off his best game since spraining his ankle last month.

Orton still was relatively quiet, going 20of-34 with 219 yards, two touchdowns and an interception in a 23-10 win over Jacksonville on Sunday. Not exactly Brees-like, but a big improvement over the previous three games, when he completed 49 percent of his passes.

Against the Jaguars, he looked more like the quarterback who beat out Rex Grossman for the starting job—and the Bears could use that.

Orton started against the Saints as a rookie in 2005, when Brees was in San Diego, and again last season. But he was just a game-manager three years ago and was simply trying to convince the Bears he was worth a look the last time.

Now, the shackles are off—and the expectations are higher.

The Bears are trying to make the playoffs, and standing in their way is another Boilermaker who happens to be one of the league's best quarterbacks.

It'll be tempted to switch over to "30 Rock" if the Bears are getting pummeled, so I've asked my lady friend to hide the remote control.

I know,
I'm not the
only one
who's got



a crush on Tina Fey. But I'll bet I'm the only one who's got an original oil print of her on his doggie bowl. Here now, my TV picks.

NFL Bears vs. New Orleans

7:15 p.m. NFL Network Let it snow! Let it snow! Let it snow!

COLLEGE BASKETBALL Saint Joseph's at Villanova

7 p.m. ESPN2

Close your eyes and imagine if DePaul vs. Loyola mattered.

NBABoston at Washington

7:15 p.m. TNT

I'm not saying the Celtics are great, but the Vegas odds are 14-1 that they throw a shutout.

H.S. BASKETBALL Lincoln (N.Y.) vs. Duncanville (Texas)

8:30 p.m. ESPN

Oddly enough, this game will feature two of the five highest-paid basketball players in the country.

COPS AND JOCKS

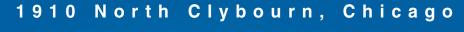
Athletes can't seem to say out of trouble, and we can't seem to look away.

Ex-Giant Ingram wanted



An arrest warrant has been issued for former New York Giants

star **Mark Ingram** (above) after he failed to report to federal prison to begin serving nearly eight years for bank fraud and money laundering. Ingram pleaded guilty in November 2005 and was ordered to surrender to a prison in Ashland, Ky., last Friday, but he never showed up.



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Game day!

TOPIC

The gang welcomes RedEye reader Ryan Garcia for a guest shot.

Say something to

against New Orleans.

encourage the Bears

C.C. Sabathia and the New

York Yankees go together

Why was mega-rich

doing his own snow blowing?

on a Jake Peavy trade?

hockey star Joe Sakic

What's the real reason the

Cubs can't pull the trigger



ADAM CALDARELLI acaldarelli@tribune.com

buffet.

Our city is more politically corrupt than theirs! Now go get 'em!

... C.C. and an all-you-can-eat

LEO EBERSOLE lebersole@tribune.com

Did you see that? Reggie Bush just did another flip! Get him!!!

... Kevin Brown, Carl Pavano and Jaret Wright and the Yankees go together.

As an Illinoisan, I don't get

it. Clearly his bribe to state

They're holding out for

get two scrubs free" sale.

government was insufficient.

Pittsburgh's "Buy one scrub,

U.S. Senate seat in it for you if you win.

Let's just say there's a certain

JIMMY GREENFIELD

jgreenfield@tribune.com

... fire and \$160 million in cash go together.

was fun.

... a double diagnosis of high cholesterol and cancer.

redeyesports@tribune.com Blow the Saints back to their

multimillion-dollar FEMA

RYAN GARCIA

trailers.

Tom Sawyer convinced him it None of Sean Avery's sloppy seconds were there to do it for him.

They're demanding the Padres take the entire Tribune Co. off their hands.

Send every taxpayer a rebate

A ban on "This Year is Here" and "It's Gonna Happen" signs

It's not like the Cubs are known

in a timely fashion (see 1908).

for taking care of things



TRACY SWARTZ tswartz@tribune.com

Dorothy Mantooth is a Saint! ... A straight shot. Right to the baby-maker.

... politicians and prison. Luckily, pinstripes enhance your appearance.

He was tired of fans always

being the ones to give the

No trigger to pull: Their only

hope had to surrender his

gun cards and passport.

finger.

The bigger question is what is Joe Sakic doing sticking his hand into a snowblower?

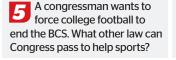
Perhaps Patti Blagojevich should get involved in the negotiations.

Legalize the cloning of

A federal ban on holster-less sweatpants.

of one sideline reporter.

because, uh, it's not.



End the Big Ten. Hasn't this country seen enough

Derrick Rose.



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600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)

Show times change daily &

Bolt (PG) 1:45.4:20.7:00.9:30

Role Models (R) 4:15,10:10

(312) 255-9340

600 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago

AMC Select - The best specialty films

■ Four Chris (PG-13) 3:00,5:45,8:15,10:40

Transporter 3 (PG-13) 2:00,4:50,7:20,10:00

■ Twilight (PG-13) 1:30,3:30,4:30,7:30,10:20

Madagascar 2 (PG) 2:20,4:40,9:45

AMC Select Changeling (R) 1:15,6:45

2828 North Clark St., Chicago (773) 509-4949

■ Let the Right (R) 1:50.4:50.7:40.10:25

Synecdoche (R) 1:40,4:35,7:25,10:15

2600 N. Western Ave. (800) 326-3264 #1642

Bolt (PG) 12:50.3:10.5:30

Madagascar 2 (PG) 1:20,4:10

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

■ Cadillac Rec (R) ★ 1:00.4:00.7:00.10:00

AMC Select Cadillac Rec (R) 2:30.5:15.8:00.10:45

Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 2:10,5:00,6:30,7:45,9:15,10:30

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

Slumdog Mill (R) 1:45,3:00,4:00,4:40,6:15,7:45,9:20,10:15,10:40

Punisher: War(R) ★ 12:40.1:30.3:40.4:30.6:30.7:30.9:30.10:30

■ Transporter 3 (PG-13) 2:10,5:15,7:50,8:20,10:15,10:45

■ Twilight (PG-13) 12:15,2:50,3:30,6:05,6:20,9:15,9:40

Four Chris (PG-13) 12:20.1:10.2:40.3:50.5:00.6:40.7:40.9:10.10:20

Bolt in 3D (PG) 12:10.1:50.2:30.4:20.4:50.6:50.7:20.9:20.9:50

Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 12:30,1:40,3:20,4:40,6:10,6:45,7:10,

Milk (R) 1:30,2:40,4:30,6:20,7:00,7:30,9:30,10:30

Email: cedarcrosse@prodigy.net

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LOGAN THEATRE

Changeling (R) 2:10,5:30,8:20

■ Role Models (R) 2:10.4:20.6:25.8:40

■ **BH Chihuahua** (PG) 2:00,4:10,6:20,8:30

MUSIC BOX

■ Christmas Tale (NR) 5:00,8:00

PIPERS ALLEY (AMC)

1608 N. Wells, Chicago (312) 642-7500

AMC Select - The best specialty films

■ Madagascar 2 (PG) 1:00.2:15.3:20.4:45.5:40.7:50.10:00

■ Soul Men (R) 6:45,9:20

■ Role Models (B) 7:05 9:35

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

■ Four Chris (PG-13) 6:15,8:15,10:15

■ Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 5:30,7:45,10:00

AMC Select - The best specialty films

■ Four Chris (PG-13) 1:05,3:15,5:20,7:30,9:45

■ Bolt (PG) 1:00,2:00,3:10,4:30,5:25,7:45,10:00

■ Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 1:50,4:20,6:50,9:30

■ Twilight (PG-13) 1:30.2:30.4:10.5:10.7:10.8:10.9:55

■ AMC Select Cadillac Rec (R) 1:10.2:10.3:40.4:40.6:15.7:15.9:00.9:50

■ Transporter 3 (PG-13) 1:20,2:40,4:00,5:15,6:30,7:40,9:05,9:55

■ Punisher: War (R) 1:45,4:25,7:00,9:40

■ Australia (PG-13) 2:20,5:45,9:00

■ Twilight (PG-13) 5:00,7:30,10:00

■ Bolt (PG) 5:30.7:30.9:30

FORD CITY 14 (AMC) S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago

Show times change daily

(773) 582-1839

4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

■ Klimt (NR) 6:00.8:30

■ Doctor Zhivago (PG-13) 6:30

LINCOLN VILLAGE THEATER

6341 N. McCormick at Devon Chicago

2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago (773) 252-0628

■ The Dark Knight (PG-13) 2:15,5:25,8:10

3733 N. Southport, Chicago (773) 871-6604

La León (NR) 5:45 9:45

■ Beau Trou (NR) 7:30 P.M.

Show times change daily

■ Striped Pajamas (PG-13) 1:15,3:30,5:45,8:00 ■ Zack and Miri (R) 7:30 P.M.

■ AMC Select Happy-Go-Lucky (R) 4:10 P.M.

■ I've Loved You (PG-13) 2:30,5:00 ■ AMC Select W. (PG-13) 1:25,6:45 ■ AMC Select Rachel Getting (R) 1:40,4:20,7:00

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)

322 E. Illinois Street 847-765-7262 Show times change daily

Earth Stood (PG-13) 12:01 A.M.

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES)

7000 Carperter Rd., Skokie (800) 326-3264 #2309

■ Punisher: War (R) ★ 12:10,2:40,5:10,7:40,10:10

■ Cadillac Rec (R) ★ 1:40,4:30,7:20,10:00 ■ Nobel Son (R) ★ 12:40.3:45.6:40.9:40

G - General audience PG - Parental guidence suggested
 PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13
 R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

CROWN VILLAGE 18 (KERASOTES) (continu

■ Australia (PG-13) 12:30,4:20,8:20,9:10 ■ Transporter 3 (PG-13) 2:00,5:15,7:50,10:15

■ Four Chris (PG-13) 12:20.1:10.3:00.4:10.5:30.6:50.8:10.9:30.10:25

■ Twilight (PG-13) 12:15,1:00,1:30,3:20,4:00,4:50,6:10,7:00,7:45, 9:20 9:55 10:40

■ Bolt (PG) 12:50.1:50.3:30.4:15.6:05.6:45.8:40

■ Bolt in 3D (PG) 2:20,4:45,7:10,9:45

Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 12:45.2:10.3:40.4:40.6:20.7:30.9:00.10:20

Madagascar 2 (PG) 12:00.2:30.5:00.7:15.9:50

■ Striped Paiamas (PG-13) 1:20 3:50 6:30 9:15

■ Role Models (R) 2:15.5:20.8:00.10:30

WEBSTER PLACE (KERASOTES) 1471 W. Webster Ave., (800) 326-3264 #1641

■ Nobel Son (R) ★ 1:45,4:30,7:30,10:15

■ Australia (PG-13) 12:30,2:15,4:00,6:10,8:00,9:40

■ Four Chris (PG-13) 2:40,5:00,7:20,10:00

■ Twilight (PG-13) 3:15,6:20,9:10

■ Bolt (PG) 2:20,4:40,7:00,9:30

■ Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 12:45,1:30,2:30,3:45,4:15,5:15,6:30, 7:10,7:50,9:20,10:10,10:30

■ Role Models (R) 2:00,4:50,7:40,10:20

■ Changeling (R) 3:30,6:40,9:50

SHOWPLACE 14 - GALEWOOD CROSSINGS (KERASOTES E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave. (800) 326-3264 #1646

■ Punisher: War (B) 2:00 4:45 7:30 10:00

■ Cadillac Rec (R) 12:30.1:50.3:20.4:30.6:20.7:20.9:10.10:10 ■ Nobel Son (R) 12:40.3:50.6:45.9:40

■ Australia (PG-13) 2:30,6:10,9:45

■ Transporter 3(PG-13) 1:20,2:20,4:10,5:15,6:40,7:50,9:15,10:20 ■ Four Chris (PG-13) 2:40,5:00,7:45,10:15

■ Twilight (PG-13) 1:00,1:30,4:00,4:40,7:00,7:40,9:50,10:40

■ **Bolt** (PG) 1:10,3:40,6:30,9:00

■ Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 1:40.4:20.7:15.10:30

Madagascar 2 (PG) 2:10.4:50.7:10.9:30

■ Soul Men (R) 12:50,3:30,6:50,9:20

What to Watch

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)

4779 W. Cermak (800) 326-3264 #1644

■ Punisher: War (R) ★ 2:00,4:30,7:20,9:50 ■ Cadillac Rec (R) ★ 12:30,2:10,3:20,5:00,6:20,7:40,9:10,10:20

■ Nobel Son (R) ★ 12:40,3:50,6:45,9:30 ■ Australia (PG-13) 2:20,6:10,9:55

■ Transporter 3 (PG-13) 1:20,4:10,6:40,9:20

■ Four Chris (PG-13) 12:50,2:30,3:10,4:50,5:30,7:10,8:00,9:45 ■ Twilight (PG-13) 1:00,1:40,4:00,4:40,7:00,7:45,10:10,10:30

■ Bolt (PG) 1:10,2:45,3:40,5:15,6:30,7:50,9:00,10:15 ■ Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 1:30,4:20,7:30,10:00 ■ Madagascar 2 (PG) 1:50,4:15,6:50,9:40

OAK PARK

LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC) 630-444-FILM #560

■ Australia (PG-13) 12:05,3:20,6:35,9:50 ■ Bolt in 3D (PG) 12:00,2:15,4:30,6:45,9:00 ■ Striped Pajamas (PG-13) 1:10,3:15,5:20,7:30,9:35 ■ Four Chris (PG-13) 1:00,3:05,5:10,7:15,9:20

■ Madagascar 2 (PG) 12:30,2:35,4:40,6:40,8:40

■ Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 12:00,2:20,4:40,7:05,9:30 ■ Twilight (PG-13) 1:40,4:20,7:00,9:40

■ Earth Stood (PG-13) 12:01 Midnight

EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

(847)492-0123 🕹

(047)492-0123 Cs - Cadillac Rec (R) ± 11:40,2:20,5:00,7:40,10:20 ■ Milk (R) ± 11:30,1:00,2:30,4:00,5:30,7:00,8:30,1:00 - Punisher: War (R) ± 11:50,2:25,5:10,7:50,10:30 ■ Australia (PG-13) 11:40,1:20,3:10,4:50,6:40,8:25

■ Bolt (PG) 11:45 1:10 2:15 3:40 4:45 6:10 7:30 8:40 9:50

Bott (PG) 1114,110,2115,3340,4745,6110,730,6340,950
Four Chris (PG-13)1155,110,210,330,440,550,710,8110,930,1030
Madagascar 2 (PG) 11:55,2110,440,7:00,9:20
Quantum-Sol. (PG-13) 11:50,1:20,2:30,4:00,5:10,6:40,7:50,9:30,10:25
Role Models (R) 4:20,10:15

■ Slumdog Mill (R) 11:51,105,2:20,4:05,5:20,7:15,8:35,10:05 ■ Transporter 3 (PG-13) 11:30,2:00,4:30,7:15,9:45 ■ Twilight (PG-13) 12:55,1:30,3:55,6:50,7:20,9:55

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MBC Mobile 5207 W Fullerton 773 592 5224

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NORRIDGE Cellular World

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2325 W Devon Ave

Lucki Communications 6456 W Belmont Ave 773 202 8550

JUSTICE A&A Beepers

8013 W 79th St 708 728 1700 PALOS HEIGHTS

E R Wireless 6517 W 127th St 708 396 3636

1st Communications 1956 W Peterson Ave 773 973 1010

T··Mobile

Neizas Enterprise 2418 S Kedzie Ave 773 522 7777

MCHENRY Wireless Park 3815 W Elm St 815 363 9933

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Cell Place 4717 S Kedzie Ave 773 254 5670

BOLINGBROOK EZ On Wireless 164 S Bolingbrook Dr 630 739 5600

MOUNT PROSPECT ABC Wireless 1101 Mount Prospect Plz

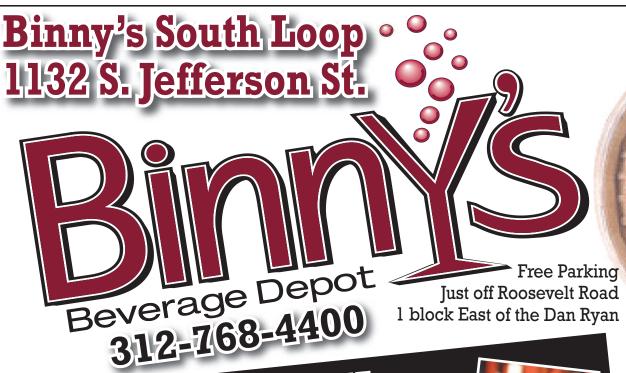
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5 to try

Chicago's newest spots are casual and comforting and often BYOB

Shiso

449 W. North Ave. 312-649-1234

We're not sure if it's coincidence or savvy planning, but it seems as if every other spot that opened this month was a BYOB—and there's nothing like a BYOB when you're trying to save a few bucks. Week-old Shiso, a 33-seat Old Town BYOB, is the latest addition. Look for a line-up of nigiri, sashimi and maki, plus cooked fare such as hibachi shrimp

new on the scene

By M. Kathleen Pratt and Terri Mooney

and grilled sirloin with Japanese-style steak sauce.

The Meatloaf Bakery

2464 N. Clark St. 773-698-6667

How's this for a twist? Instead of the usual meat-that-looks-like-a-loaf, the owner and chief meatloaf-maker of this just-opened carryout-focused spot, Cynthia Kallile, shapes her meatloaf to look like baked goods such as cupcakes, cakes, pies and tarts.

Estrella Negra

2346 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-616-5811

This arty little cafe-slash-gallery on the Bucktown-Logan Square border serves a smallish menu of contemporary Latin cuisine alongside a smorgasbord of local art. The casual dining room and bar area is decked out in a colorful assortment of Dia de los Muertos-themed works. Owner Otoniel Michel's mom is in the kitchen, so you'll find family specialties on the menu, including her tamales and chicken pozole. Estrella Negra is BYOB for now.

Milwood Pizza Burgers & More

1360 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-772-6000

In case the name didn't give it away, this weeks-old Wicker Park quick-serve specializes in made-to-order burgers and thin-crust, brick-oven pizza by the slice or whole pie. The "more" comes into play with appetizers, salads, sandwiches and desserts.

Oak Tree Restaurant & Bakery

900 North Michigan building, 6th Floor. 312-751-1988

Attention, holiday shoppers! This Mag Mile mainstay, which closed for a face-lift this summer, reopened just in time for the holiday rush. You won't recognize the new interior, and the menu underwent a transformation too. Perennial best sellers remain, but you'll find plenty of new additions, including an expanded sandwich menu. There's also a new bakery where you can score muffins, breads and more.

Drunken Goat SOMETIME IN 2009

Details like location (likely Wicker Park) and opening date (sometime next year) still are being ironed out, but "Top Chef" Season 4 winner Stephanie Izard and partners Rob Katz and Kevin Boehm of Boka Restaurant Group are definitely planning a "fun and funky" shared-plates spot focusing on Spanish and Italian flavors. So what's with the name? "Izard" refers to a mountain goat found in the Pyrenees Mountains, Izard (the chef, not the goat) loves cheese and wine, and Drunken Goat is an artisan Spanish goat cheese with a wine-soaked rind.

The Countdown KEEPING TABS ON COMING-SOON SPOTS

La Trattoria Del Merlo

ANY DAY NOW

The folks behind the Gold Coast's Merlo on Maple and Lincoln Park's Merlo Ristorante are opening this Italian trattoria in Lincoln Park. 1967 N. Halsted St.

Trader Vic's

DEC. 15

The island-inspired restaurant and lounge is slated to rise again. Mai tais for everyone! 1030 N. State St.

iCream

JANUARY

It opened, then closed. Then it opened again and closed again. Now this custom ice cream and hot pudding spot is opening—hopefully, once and for all—in January. 1537 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Tocco

JANUARY

The folks behind Follia built this rustic Italian spot from the ground up in Wicker Park. 1266 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Ristorante Al Teatro

MID-JANUARY

Pilsen's boom continues with this 200-seat Italian spot in the historic Thalia Hall. 1227 W. 18th St.

Nana

MID-TO LATE JANUARY

Bridgeport's latest addition will serve organic breakfast and lunch with a hearty helping of Latin flair. 3267 S. Halsted St.

Branch 27

LATE JANUARY

This American bistro gets our early vote for best repurposed space of 2009: It's in a former public library. 1371 W. Chicago Ave.

Orange

LATE JANUARY OR EARLY FEBRUARY

Frushi comes, frushi goes. The folks behind Lakeview's Orange are closing their South Loop location and launching a Lincoln Park spot. 2413 N. Clark St.

Birchwood Kitchen

LATE FEBRUARY OR EARLY MARCH

Wicker Parkers can get their North Avenue sandwich fix on North Avenue once again when this spot opens in the former Cold Comfort space. 2211 W. North Ave.

>> Check out **metromix.com** for lots more just-opened and soon-to-come spots





Tomorrow 5-9am

of for more info, visit wgntv.com

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MORNING



best bets

BY JULIA BORCHERTS metromix @tribune.com

THURSDAY FREEBIE

What fun!

Germania Place, 108 W. Germania Pl. 312-953-3635.

Brighten your spirits at **Jingle. Mingle.Shop**.

The benefit for

The Joshua Center includes complimentary appetizers and giveaways, plus discounts of up to 60 percent on clothing, jewelry and more from 25 local designers and artists. Includes a silent auction and cash bar; a VIP upgrade (\$25) gets you drinks and a gift bag. 4 p.m.

Here's to you

Casey Moran's, 3660 N. Clark St. 773-755-4444.

It's all about you at the **Customer Appreciation Holiday Party**, which includes appetizers, call drinks, wine and domestic beers till 9 p.m. Hungry? Fuel your party spirit with \$1 burgers, or opt for drink specials: \$3 Absolut cocktails and \$6 20-ounce vodka lemonades. 7 p.m. Free admission with a toy donation to benefit Children's Memorial Hospital; \$5 cover without.

Bubble up

Wine Discount Center, 1826 1/2 N. Elston Ave. 773-489-3454.

Want to splurge on a nice holiday bubbly but not sure which label suits your taste buds? At the **Holiday Champagne Tasting**, you can sample more than 30 champagnes and sparkling wines, such as Dom Perignon, Perrier-Jouet Fleur and Roederer Brut Premiere. While you're savoring the suds, snack on popcorn with truffle oil. 7:30 p.m. \$35. Reservations required.

Creative genius

Flat Iron Arts Building, 1579 N. Milwaukee Ave. 312-335-3000.

It doesn't take a genius to know that buying locally is a wise idea. You can do just that at the **Holiday smARTshow**, which features paintings, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, drawings, prints, photography and candles by 80 local artists. To keep your spirits up, several galleries and studios host receptions with wine, beer, appetizers and snacks. 6 p.m. Through Sunday. \$5 suggested donation.

Not-so-chilly chili

Harrigan's, 2816 N. Halsted St. 773-248-5933.

Ward off winter's chill at Harrigan's first annual **Chili Cook- Off**, where 12-15 competitors serve up complimentary samples paired with seasonal Goose Island beers. Have an award-worthy recipe? Contact the bar to register. 2 p.m. Saturday. No cover for samplers; \$5 to compete.

Steal home

Sheffield's, 3258 N. Sheffield Ave. 773-281-4989.

Mystery writer Sara Paretsky, baseball biographer Jonathan Eig and more than a dozen other contributing writers and sports columnists toast the release of the new anthology about Chicago's most lovable losers, "Cubbie Blues: 100 Years of Waiting till Next Year." The party and signing also feature appearances by Pat Brickhouse (widow of famed broadcaster Jack Brickhouse), a complimentary appetizer buffet, drink specials and Cubs-themed music selected by columnist Dave Hoekstra. 7 p.m. Free.

HOW TO REACH US | FOR ENTERTAINMENT INFORMATION 24/7, GO TO METROMIX.COM.

Metromix is published Monday through Saturday as part of RedEye, an edition of the Chicago Tribune. For questions, comments and story ideas, contact Matt McGuire, editor, at mmcguire@tribune.

To submit event information for Metromix or **metromix.com**, go to **metromix.com/listings**.



27 DECEMBER 11, 2008 ▮ REDEYE



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DECEMBER 11, 2008 I REDEYE ★

metromix innjoy # the GRAND CENTRAL S **CRAB HOUSE** SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY SATURDAY RDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY - College Football Feast, \$25 Meal - College Football - \$10 buckets of - Michigan \$3.50 Bud Light - \$10 All You Can - "Biggest Party in Wrigley" - \$4 Corona & Eat Brunch Buffet Saturdays Corona Light BTLS domestic bottles Football, Brunch Drafts ers Watch all NFL from 10am-3pm Package Includes - \$4 Smirnoff Bloody - \$4 All Bombs (11am-3pm) -\$3.00 Coors Light \$6 Jumbo Vodka & son shots games on our huge HDT**V**s! All Day Cookout & Bansai energy - \$5.50 Bloody Mary Marys \$3 Coors Light **Bottles** - \$3 PBR & Old Style d Light **Domestic Drafts** drink pints - 25¢ Wings Drafts - \$3.50 Blue Moon 10 mug, \$4 from 9am-5pm Combo Platter - \$3.99 1/2 lb. Black - \$3 Bloody Mary's Drafts (wings, rib tips, calamari) \$8.95 Angus Cheeseburger - \$3 Mimosas - \$5.00 Svedka w/Fries til 6pm. Drinks All domestic Home of Michigan St. drafts \$3 SUNDAY DAY SUNDAY SUNDA SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY SUNDAY · Cy's Mai Tai \$4.50 \$3 Iron City - Steelers Football - \$3.50 Miller Lite wiches We show ALL Pro - \$10 All You Can - \$6.00 Bloody \$2.50 Bud & - Check out our Buy one bottle of Southern Style Brunch Package From 11am-3pm **Budlight BTLS** bottles **Drafts** Games Eat Brunch Buffet Marys dy Mary wine, get one 1/2 - \$3 You-call-its (11am-3pm) Huge Brunch - \$3.00 Miller or \$4 Smirnoff Bloody \$6 Stoli Bloody wdrivers price! Buffet - \$15.95 \$3 Miller Lite Miller Lite Bottles Marys Mary's - Country Night Part II: \$5 Pitchers of Miller Life & High Oysters 60¢ each from 10am-3pm Drafts Wrigley's biggest and best brunch 25¢ Wings Shrimp 75¢ each \$5.50 Bloody Mary · \$3 Bloody Mary's \$3.99 1/2 lb. Life, \$5 40oz Beers, \$3 Jameson and SocoLime Wings 35¢ each Black Angus \$3 Mimosas \$2 Hamburgers Cheeseburger w/ Fries til 6pm - \$3 Bombs (At bar only with two beverage shots, \$1 Sliders MONDAY MONDAY DAY MONDAY MONDAY MONDAY MONDAY MONDAY MONDAY minimum) - \$3 You-call-its \$2.50 Miller Lite & - \$3 Burgers - \$2.00 Budwiser - \$1 burgers - \$5 Salads - 20 cent wings \$1 Coors Light III entrees Free parking! Highlife BTLS Products Drafts - \$3 Chicken Caeser - \$10 Buckets of III bottles · \$15 Buckets and \$30 Barrels of \$6.99 NY Strip \$4 Jameson shots \$3.00 Goose Miller Products Wraps Corona, Corona Steak and 25¢ wings - \$2 Miller Lite Island Products drinks - \$4 Jager Bombs **Light and Pacifico Bottles/Drafts** \$3 Bombs 3819 420 1/2 950 3438 W. DIVISION W. DIVISION N. ASHLAND N. SHEFFIELD W. DIVERSEY W. DIVERSEY W. WRIGHTWOOD N. SHEFFIELD N. CLARK **HPORT** 773.883.8900 773.327.7800 312,337,4349 773.248.4400 773.549.9090 773.525.2515 773.832.4000 773.244.1166 773,394,2066 .0600 The Uncle PADDY THE LONG'S PONY Wrightwood YARD Vaughan's WELLINGTON'S CHICAGO RESORT - \$5 Jumbo - \$10 pitchers of 1/2 off food - \$15 Call Cocktail - \$8 Pitchers Wisconsin \$20 6-Pack - \$15 Buckets of \$3 all domestic Notre Dame **Bud Light Buckets of Coors** Smirnoffs Coors Light Football drafts Football mini pitchers Coors Light - \$4 Raspberry & Coors Light - \$7 32 oz. Badger - \$4 Grolsch Bottles S6 Chicken N - \$6.75 40oz beers \$5 all bombs S3 All Bud Family \$5 Bloody Marys Vodka lemonades Bottles - \$4 Bloody Mary's \$5 Jager Bombs S5 Jaeger and Brunch from \$4 Illini Mimosas 10am-3pm \$6 Orange Crush Effen Bombs Bombs - \$2 Domestic Btls - \$4 20oz Miller Lite \$3 everything at \$2.75 Miller Lite - 25¢ Jumbo Wings - \$5 Jumbo Vikings Football \$15 Buckets (5 bottles) of Miller \$2 Miller Lite \$2 Miller Lt Smirnoffs drafts Bottles Drafts the bar pints - ALL Pro Games \$3 Coors/ Brunch from & Coors Products Coors Light - \$5 Effen Bloody 11am-3pm - \$5 Bloody Marys - \$3 SoCo lime \$3 Mimosas - \$4 Grolsch Bottles \$5 Bloody Marys Mary's Bottles \$3.50 Stella Artois - \$4 All Bombs - \$4 Alpha King Pints \$15 Buckets of \$5 Breakfast \$4 Mimosas - \$5 Bombs \$3 Drafts Domestic Btls pints - \$2 Bud Light Pints \$3 Bloody Mary Sliders - 1/2 off all Belgian \$20 Buckets of \$5 Bombs - \$5 Jack \$5 Margaritas & - \$4 Bloody Mary's **Premium Btls** mojitos Free Food buffet - \$5 Dozen Tasty Wings MONDAY MONDA MONDAY MONDA MONDAY - \$1 domestic drafts \$3 You-Call-Its Half Price Bottles - \$4 20oz Imperial 1/2 Priced \$2.50 Bud Family \$3 Blue Moon, Fat \$2 Bud/Bud Lite \$6 Domestic 10¢ wings **Guinness Draughts** Wine Appetizers 4-7pm Drafts Tire & 312 Pints **Bottles** Pitchers -\$3 Stoli Drinks - \$3 Effen cocktails \$3 Cosmopolitans (all flavors) Half Price All - \$15 Buckets of \$7 14" Pizzas \$5 Mai Tais \$15 Buckets (5 Coors Light Appetizers 1/2 price pizzas \$4 All Bombs - \$8 Miller Lite - \$4 Grolsch Bottles \$8 Meatloaf bottles) Coors & Coors Light Stacks - \$3 Sierra Drafts Free Pool All - \$2 Domestic Cans Night! 1028 1638 1935 2483 2917 1300 N. SHEFFIELD N. SHEFFIELD N. CLARK W. DIVERSEY W. BELMONT N. SHEFFIELD N. SEDGWICK N. SHEFFIELD W. WELLINGTON W. WRIGHTWOOD 773.828.5055 773,404,2151 312.337.7900 773.549.1132 773.549.4949 773.477.9273 Check out **metromix.com** bring you all of this season's football specials! to find out more about these

RedZone key players!

season to find out which bars we'll be raiding!

Lovin' from the (tandoor) oven



By Emily Hiser Lobdell

Their eats: After 17 years wooing diners with homey ambiance and homestyle Indian fare at her super-casual, one-room restaurant on Oakley Avenue, chef-owner Hema Potla of Hema's Kitchen moved the show around the corner and iust west of Western Avenue

this fall. Her new West Rogers Park digs are bigger, and the new kitchen boasts two tandoor ovens - something the original location lacked.

With the new ovens come new Indian specialties such as naan, which is traditionally baked on the wall of a tandoor oven. Selections include plain, garlic and onion varieties, as well as naan stuffed with ground lamb (\$1.99-\$3.49). Other additions include traditional tandoori dishes such as chicken marinated in yogurt, lemon juice and chili powder (\$9.99, left), and paneer tikka, assorted cubes of homemade cheese marinated in yogurt and spices and cooked in the tandoor oven with bell peppers and onions (\$7.99). Potla also added a lineup of tandoor ovenprepped entrees she calls Hema's Sizzlers (\$7.99-\$15.99), as well as a handful of new appetizers, chicken and lamb dishes.

The kindly Potla still keeps a watchful



Hema's Kitchen 2439 W. Devon Ave. 773-338-1627



eye on the kitchen at the new location and the Lincoln Park outpost, Hema's Kitchen II (2411 N. Clark St. 773-529-1705), while family members run the show in the inviting, warmly lit new dining room. Though the new location is larger, with seating for about 100, it can get quite crowded on weekends-reservations are accepted (and recommended) for parties of five or more.

Your drinks: Though the sign outside nearby Adelphi Liquor (2351 W. Devon Ave. 773-274-2239) boasts "Indian beer and wine," you can't always count on both—Indian

wines were out of stock on our recent visit. Chilled Indian lagers are a good choice for spicy fare, though, and Adelphi sells Royal Challenge and Haywards 5000 (650-millileter bottles, \$3.50 each).

Adelphi also offers an eclectic wine selection. Potla recommends a red for her richer dishes, so try a bottle of Voruta, an unusual black currant wine from Lithuania (\$12.99). Hema's does not charge a corkage fee.

EMILY HISER LOBDELL IS A METROMIX SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR. METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

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\$4 O BOMBS

\$2 BUD LIGHT & MILLER LITE BOTTLES

\$4 JAGER BOMBS

\$3 SOCO LIME SHOTS

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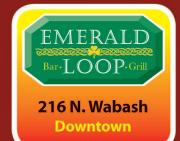
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Metromix's top picks

O'DONOVAN'S

Bears, bus, beer. Includes round-trip transportation to Soldier Field and drinks en route. Buses leave about 11/2 hours before kickoff Afterward, show your Bears ticket stub for a half-price appetizer. Miss the bus? Watch Bears home and away games on the bar's 20 flat screens and indulge in \$10 Miller Lite pitchers, \$3.25 Miller Lite drafts, \$5 jumbo screwdrivers and more. \$10; 2100 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-478-2100.

CASEY MORAN'S

7 p.m.: Customer Appreciation Holiday Party. Bring a toy donation for Children's Memorial Hospital and indulge in hosted cocktails and complimentary appetizers. \$5 or a toy donation; 3660 N.



Clark St. 773-755-4444.

NV PENTHOUSE LOUNGE

9 p.m.: High Maintenance Series. A ladies' night holiday-themed party includes a hosted Chambord minimartini reception,

complimentary color consultation and styling from Kelly Cardenas Salon (1909 W. North Ave.), music by DJs Jordan V and Kalendr and gift bags. No cover; 116 W. Hubbard St. 312-329-9960.

ADDICTION SPORTS BAR AND GRILL

\$2 Miller, MGD and Miller High Life bottles, \$2.50 nachos; 1023 W. Lake St., Chicago, 312-421-8845.

ASHLAND

\$5 martinis; 2824 N. Ashland Ave. 773-883-7297

BOOTLEGGERS

\$2 PBR bottles, \$3 SoCo Lime shots, belt buckle and pick-up line contests; 13 W. Division St. 312-266-0944.

BROWNSTONE **TAVERN & GRILL**

\$3 burger and fries with first beer purchase, \$4 SoCo Lime shots; 3937 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-528-3700

BUTCH MCGUIRE'S

\$1-\$2 tacos, \$4 Corona bottles; 20 W. Division St. 312-337-9080.

THE CENTRAL

\$2 Bud Light bottles, \$3 Absolut cocktails, \$5 bar menu; 3466 N. Clark St. 773-880-2222.

THE COACH HOUSE

\$5 sake bombs: 950 W. Wolfram St. 773-665-

CORCORAN'S

\$175 minicheeseburgers, \$2.75 Miller Lite pints, \$5 margaritas, \$5 raspberry vodka and lemonade cocktails, \$14 Coors Light buckets; 1615 N Wells St. 312-440-0885.

THE DUGOUT **SPORTS BAR & GRILL**

\$3 Patron and Jameson shots, \$5 domestic pitchers; 950 W. Addison St. 773-281-

F. O'MAHONY'S

\$4 house glasses of wine and \$3 Jack Daniel's cocktails, \$5 late-night pizzas (11 p.m.-1 a.m.); 3701 N. Broadway. 773-549-0226

FUNKY BUDDHA LOUNGE

9 p.m.: Kitchen Sink. DJs Trilogy, Dream and quests spin. \$15. RSVP

to jammin4justice@ gmail.com for reduced cover; 728 W. Grand Ave. 312-666-1695.

GALLERY CABARET

\$4 Leinenkugel's pitchers; 2020 N. Oakley Ave. 773-489-5471

THE GLOBE PUB

\$3 well drinks, \$4 Belhaven Scottish Ale drafts, \$7 meatloaf with mashed potatoes and veggies; 1934 W. Irving Park Rd. 773-871-3757.

THE GRAND CENTRAL

\$2 well drinks, halfprice appetizers, halfprice bottles of wine; 950 W. Wrightwood Ave. 773-832-4000.

GREEN DOOR TAVERN

Half-price appetizers (4-7 p.m.), \$5 Seagram's martinis; 678 N. Orleans St. 312-664-5496.

Complimentary appetizers (6-8 p.m.), \$6 Snow Oueen vodka cocktails, live art and music by emerging

artists, DJ Jesse de la Pena spins dance and pop 9 p.m.; 610 N. Rush St. 312-660-7200.

LIAR'S CLUB

\$2 PBR cans, \$3 well drinks, \$3 Jim Beam shots, \$4 Jim Beam cocktails, DJs Tankboy, June Cleavage and Amber Waves spin downstairs 9 p.m. No cover; 1665 W. Fullerton Ave. 773-665-1110.

THE LIBERTINE

\$4 domestic beers, \$5-\$6 cocktails, \$5 bombs and import beers, DJs spin Euro, techno, trance and electro house 9 p.m.; 1615 N. Clybourn Ave. 312-654-1782.

MIX

\$1 call drinks and Bud and Bud Light bottles; \$5; 2843 N. Halsted St. 773-549-3500.

THE MOTEL BAR

\$5 Skyy cocktails, \$5 Martin Miller cocktails, \$5 Guinness drafts; 600 W. Chicago Ave. 312-822-2900.

REAGLE BEAGLE

Half-price pizzas (4-7 p.m.), \$5 Love Boat lemonades and Rainbow Brite punch; 160 E. Grand Ave. 312-755-9645.

SULLY'S HOUSE TAP ROOM AND GRILL

Half-price martinis and wine bottles; 1501 N. Dayton St. 312-929-2779.

SUSHISAMBA RIO

8 p.m.: Passport Thursdays. Head to the restaurant's roofton which is transformed into cities from around the world each week, including Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires and Tokyo. DJ Dani Deahl spins batucada. Prices vary: 504 N. Wells St. 312-595-2300

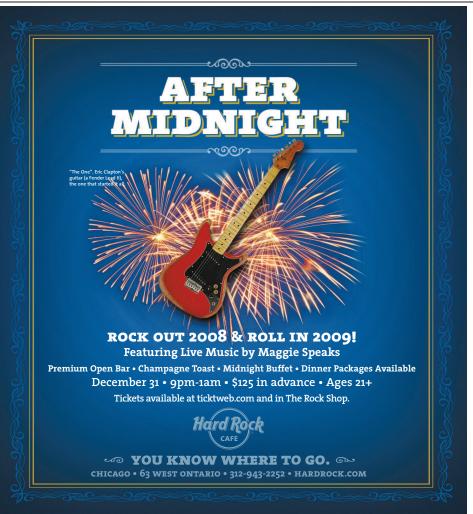
TRANSIT

DJs FLX, Monna, Julius the Mad Thinker, Emmaculate and guests spin world and house, 10 p.m. \$5-\$10; 1431 W. Lake St. 312-491-8600.











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By Matt Pais

Last year it seemed impossible to escape the ever-present song "Hey There Delilah." Especially for Plain White T's singer Tom Higgenson.

When the tune was blowing up over the summer, Higgenson said, he often sang the song at three consecutive radio station gigs, an acoustic session and a full band concert—and did it all over again the next day in a new city. (Higgenson claims "Delilah" never gets on his nerves.)

But the band of Chicago-area natives until he has time to get his own place, Higgenson still lives with his mom and stepdad in Villa Park—are already putting the hit behind them with this year's "Big Bad World." The tough-to-resist album is more upbeat than "Every Second Counts" despite "World" being, as Higgenson said, a personal album in which he blames himself for all his mistakes.

Higgenson and the band will be back in Chicago on Friday, playing a sold-out show at the Chicago Theatre. The 29-year-old talked to us recently before hitting the stage in New Orleans.

"Natural Disaster" is about a girl who fell for you because you were on TV. How can you tell if a girl is into you just because you're famous?

You really can't. But I feel like I have a pretty good judge of character. You can tell just the way someone talks to you and

CHICAGO PERSONALITY TEST

Most romantic spot in Chicago:

Buckingham Fountain or Art Institute Favorite bar: Angels and Kings, 710 N. Clark St.

Best meal: Dao, 230 E. Ohio St. Best late-night/drunk food: Bacci, 2343 W. Chicago Ave.

Top Chicago celebrity: (tie) Kanye West and Pete Wentz

Cubs or Sox: Cubs

FOR MORE FROM THIS INTERVIEW, GO TO METROMIX.COM

interacts with you. Or maybe some girls are just smoother than others. It's funny though, it turns out by the end of the song, it's like, "You know what? I don't even care what you're after. 'Cause you're so hot I can't resist you."

Sometimes you think the waitress is really into you but she's just going for the tip.

Ahh, yeah, I hate that! Man, there was this one time we were in California. It was one of those clubs with bottle service and everything. This little waitress was so cute, totally flirting all night, and one of our friends at the end of the night was like, "Hey, this guy, he wants to get your number." And she's like, "Nope. I can't do that." Just completely denied it ... I gave her a good tip anyway.

Wasn't anyone compelled to say, "Don't you know who this guy is?!"

[Laughs] No, I never throw that thing around. There was one time where we went to a club and I knew we were on the list, but I had a bunch of friends with me, and I'm sure I could've been like, "Hey, you know, Plain White T's, that song 'Hey There Delilah,' that's me." But I don't want to be that douche-y L.A. guy. If the club doesn't want to let me and my friends in, then we'll find someplace else to spend our money.

You don't throw your name around and you write an album about all your own

Well, we're from Chicago so we have a good upbringing. Very modest, middleclass families.

If someone heard only "Delilah" they might think you're a softie. Have you ever been in a fight?

Believe it or not, I have never been in a fight. ... If there's a cop or something that will stop us, or giving somebody [crap] for no reason, I will definitely be the one to stand up and shoot my mouth off a little too much.

And that's when you say, "I'm the singer of Plain White T's, you can't arrest me!"

Yeah, right. No. See, I should get arrested, right? To get some publicity. Damn, next time that happens I'm going to milk it. MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER.

Big Science hits the stage sans lab coats

chitunes

Big Science When: 9 p.m. Friday Where: The Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. Tickets: \$8 at door Listen to Big Science's song "The Coast of Nowhere" at redeyechicago. com/chitunes

By Ryan Smith

FOR REDEYE

Members of Big Science don't perform while wearing lab coats and holding Bunsen burners, but listeners might need a PhD to figure out exactly what genre of music this Ukrainian Village-based foursome

On its MySpace page the band describes itself as Pop/New Wave/Post Punk, but lead singer and guitarist Jason Hendrix looks beyond categories.

He says Big Science has been compared to such diverse bands as Modest Mouse, Pavement and early U2, but he also cites 80s New Wave bands like the Talking Heads and Joy Division as influ-

"A lot of people treat '80s pop with irony or air quoting, but I genuinely like it a lot," Hendrix said. "I think the band is at a point where we just want to play music we like."

Hendrix and bassist/keyboardist Jason Richards played in a hard touring band called The North Atlantic for seven years before opting to start Big Science in September 2007 with Jason Clark, who had produced their previous albums, and Jeremy Pena.

Big Science just released its first EP, "The Coast of Nowhere." Hendrix says the sound reflects a different sensibility.

"[With The North Atlantic,] we'd spew out songs and lay them down quickly in the studio, but now we're a little more refined," he said. "We

want to be a band that you not only want to see live, but who



has recordings." В

Science is celebrating the release of "The Coast of Nowhere' with a Friday show at The Hideout. The Gunshy Tankboy open.

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Thursday, December 11th

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Butch McGuire's 20 W. Division (312) 331-9080 8-30-10 PM Friday, December 12th

Elephant & Castle 160 E. Huron (312) 440-1180 6:30-8 PM

Celtic Crossing 751 N Clark St. (312) 337-1005 7-8:30 PM

Brownstone 3937 N. Lincoln (773) 528-3700 9-10:30 PM Saturday, December 13th

O'Shaughnessy's 4557 N. Ravenswood (773) 944-9896 8:30-10 PM



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Metromix's top shows

HARRY SHEARER AND JUDITH OWEN'S HOLIDAY SING-A-LONG

Spinal Tap star/"Simpsons" voice/all-around funnyman performs with his singersongwriter wife. 8 p.m. \$40. SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave.,

Evanston. 847-492-8860.

THE WAR ON DRUGS

Audible proof that it's not always sunny in Philadelphia. With Sleep Out, The Glorious Vapors. 9 p.m. \$8. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

HARRY CONNICK JR.

Let's not call the whole thing off. 8 p.m. \$40-\$75. The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St. 312-559-

ADRIAN LEGG

8 p.m. \$5. Heartland Cafe, 7000 N. Glenwood Ave. 773-465-8005.

ALAN GRESIK'S SWING SHIFT ORCHESTRA

9 p.m. \$6. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway, 773-878-5552.

AUNT DRACULA, MROZ/CHRISTOPER/ PEGRAM/ **DEFRAIN QUARTET, SKANKWOLF AND THE MANGE**

9 p.m. \$7. Ronny's, 2101 N. California Ave. mpshows.com

BLUES OPEN MIC JAM

8:30 p.m. Free. Harlem Avenue Lounge, 3701 Harlem Ave., Berwyn. 708-484-3610.

CHARMING AXE, SWEET HELLO

9 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-

DEE **ALEXANDER TRIO**

8 p.m. \$10. The Morse Theatre, 1328 Morse Ave. 773-654-5100.

DORSEY, **GHOST PILOT,** DROPS OF BLUE, **DEAD SUPERHERO** ORCHESTRA, **PATHOS VASTUS**

8:30 p.m. \$8. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

EL SEGUNDO, BULLY IN THE HALLWAY

9:30 p.m. \$8. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

ERIN FULTRAN

7 p.m. \$5. Bill's Blues Bar, 1029 Davis St., Evanston. 847-424-9800.

HEAVY MENTAL, RIGHT RONGLY

9 p.m. Free. Quenchers Saloon, 2401 N. Western Ave. 773-276-

JAMES WHEELER BLUES JAM

9:30 p.m. \$5. Rosa's Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-

JEFF MARX TRIO

8:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

KENNY PHELPS

11:45 p.m. Free. Redhead Piano Bar, 16 W. Ontario St. 312-640-1000.

MARIA HINES

9 p.m. Tips/donations. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

MERCURY REV, THE DUKE SPIRIT

8:30 p.m. \$25. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 312-559-1212.

MICHAEL COLEMAN

9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 754 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

» Page 38



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«Page 37

NICK MAZZARELLA TRIO, ALEX WING ENSEMBLE

10 p.m. \$5-\$15 suggested donation. Elastic, 2830 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-772-3616.

NO TIP FOR TAKEOUTS

9 p.m. Free. The Celtic Knot Public House, 626 Church St., Evanston. 847-864-1679.

OAK RIDGE BOYS

7 p.m. \$31-\$56.50. Rialto Square Theatre, 102 N. Chicago St., Joliet. 312-559-1212.

PHAREZ WHITTED QUARTET

9 p.m. \$10. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

PIETA BROWN, REGO

9 p.m. \$12. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

PROFESSOR JOHN

8 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

ROB DORN

8 p.m. \$15. Two-drink minimum. Davenport's Piano Bar and Cabaret, 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-278-1830.

RORY LAKE'S BATTLE OF THE BANDS: FAREWELL CAPTAIN, JEWSUS, THE ELECTRIC DESERT, BACHELOR PARTY WEEKEND

8 p.m. \$5-\$10. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

ROY HARGROVE QUINTET

8 and 10 p.m. Cover varies. Jazz Showcase, 806 S. Plymouth Ct. 312-360-0234.

RUSS PHILLIPS QUARTET

5 p.m. \$5. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.



SHIRLEY JOHNSON BLUES BAND

9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

THOMAS LINSK AND LISA CCLOWERY

8 p.m. Free. Redhead Piano Bar. 16 W. Ontario St. 312-640-1000

TIM GREEN TRIO

9 p.m. \$8. Pops for Champagne, 601 N. State St. 312-266-7677.

TONY OCEAN

8:30 p.m. Free. The 200 East Supper Club,

200 E. Chestnut St. 312-266-4500.

TRAPT, INEPT, DROP

6:30 p.m. \$15-\$17.50. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

TRAVIS ATKINSON.

/INCEICH

9 p.m. Free. Cubby Bear, 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

TRIPLE HAZE

10 p.m. \$5. Bill's Blues Bar, 1029 Davis St., Evanston. 847-424-9800.

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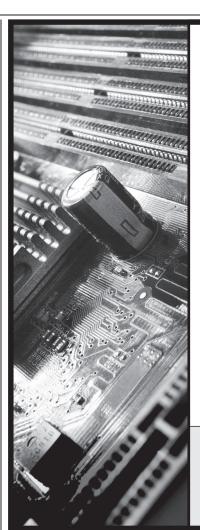
- be 18 to 49 years of age AND
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Part-time and online classes starting in January 2009. Call 312-201-5900.



RedEye Gift Guide



Circa Ceramics goods

circaceramics.etsy.com; Sacred Art, 2040 W. Roscoe St.; and homeboy, 3327 N. Broadway

This company makes all kinds of ceramics products with screen-printed, retro-looking decals on the outside, like this magnet (\$8). Other items include a 12-ounce Los Manos cup (\$30) and tabs that can be used as key chains (\$10 each).

Hoohobbers **Munch Box**

\$22 at Hoohobbers, 1657 N. Elston Ave. and hoohobbers.com A soft lunch box for a kid-or adults who want to be kids. After all, the insulated, nylonlined carrier can hold four standard-sized beverage cans. You get to choose the fabric and can have the recipient's name printed across the front.



Chicago's Grand Hotels 2009 calendar

\$13.99 at Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St., and arcadiapublishing.com Give a piece of Chicago history with Arcadia Publishing's series of historic calendars, including Chicago's Grand Hotels, which shows more than 100 years of Chicago hotel history with photographs of The Palmer House Hilton, The Drake and The Hilton Chicago.



I Am Not A Paper Cup

\$19.95 at The Coffee Studio, 5628 N. Clark St., and uncommongoods.com This is the coolest to-go cup we've seen. It's made of doublewalled porcelain with a silicone lid that keeps your drink hot and keeps tossable paper cups out of landfills. The only downside is that it holds just 11 ounces, but we need to cut down on our caffeine consumption anyway.

Anastasia Mak paintings

\$30-\$60 for limited edition prints at anastasiamak.com and other outlets* The Chicago artist paints scenes of destinations, figures, plants and florals. Original paintings are done in oil, acrylic and mixed media. Limited edition prints have been made of many originals, including "Chicago in Red" shown here. A 12by-12-inch unframed print costs \$30. * Anastasia Mak will be part of a holiday show and sale from noon-6 p.m. Sunday at 6908 N. Ashland Ave., Apt. 2N.



Flurry of ideas

Ahhh, the holidays. Snow, rain, cold—and gifts! The easy part of the holiday is receiving presents. The fun part, believe it or not, is giving—and finding—just the right thing for friends and family. RedEye scoured the city the past couple of weeks looking for great gift ideas. We tried to keep them inexpensive, but you know how it is. These are gifts we'd like to receive.



Miss Nina recycled fashions

used-up.com *

Miss Nina takes old sweaters and remakes them into beautiful hats, scarves and hand warmers. Shown here are the Plaid Lee recycled wool hat (\$45), ManLee fingerless gloves (\$20) and the Undra reversible scarf

* Miss Nina is having an ATE20 Boutique Holiday Trunk Show from noon-5 p.m. Sunday at 820 Dempster St., Evanston. For more, go to ate20.com.



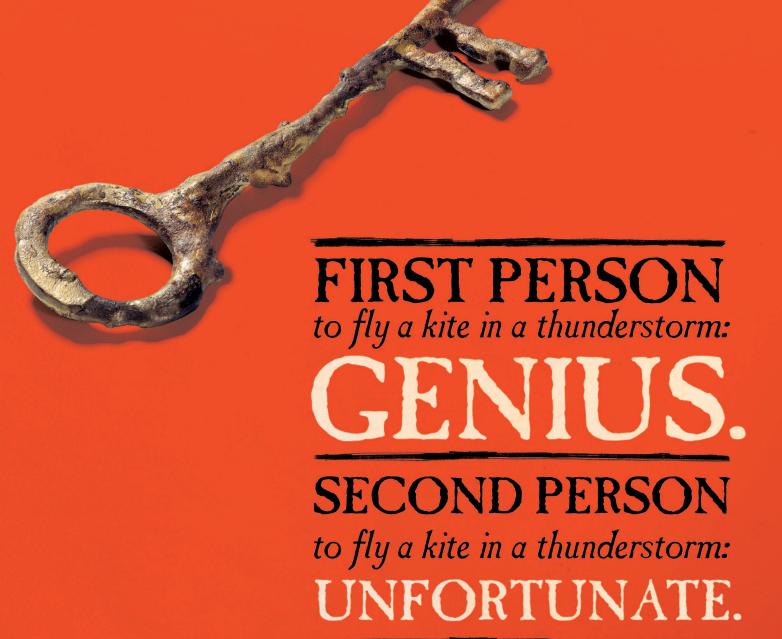


Prices and availability subject to change.



Aroma Workshop, 2050 N. Halsted St., aromaworkshop.com We've been visiting this cozy shop for years, and it's not getting old. You can mix up a custom fragrance using the pure essential oils at the scent bar, or choose a prescented cologne, lotion, bath gel or massage oil. Owner Tedd Neenan also offers artist-blown glass perfume bottles, room sprays, diffusers and candles.







LONG LIVE THE ORIGINAL

THE WORLD'S FIRST PALE ALE

The introduction of William Bass' Pale Ale in 1777 was a revolution for Britain's beer drinkers, who had previously been used to a darker draught. And not to historically name-drop, but Napoleon himself wanted to build a Bass brewery in France, Bass Pale Ale. An original to the end. From the beginning.

RedEye Gift Guide



Butternut owl mittens, \$44 at **Art Effect**, 934 W. Armitage Ave.

Akira skirt, \$26 at **Akira**, 1837 W. North Ave.





fru gal
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ritaredeye@tribune.com

Last-minute ideas

While it may be tempting to do all your Christmas shopping online, those shipping and handling charges can get you in the end. As the holidays get closer, you won't have time to wait for a mailing anyway. Instead, shop some of Chicago's finest boutiques for fun and sometimes frugal fashion. FRUGAL FASHIONISTA JOANNA GUSTAFSON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.





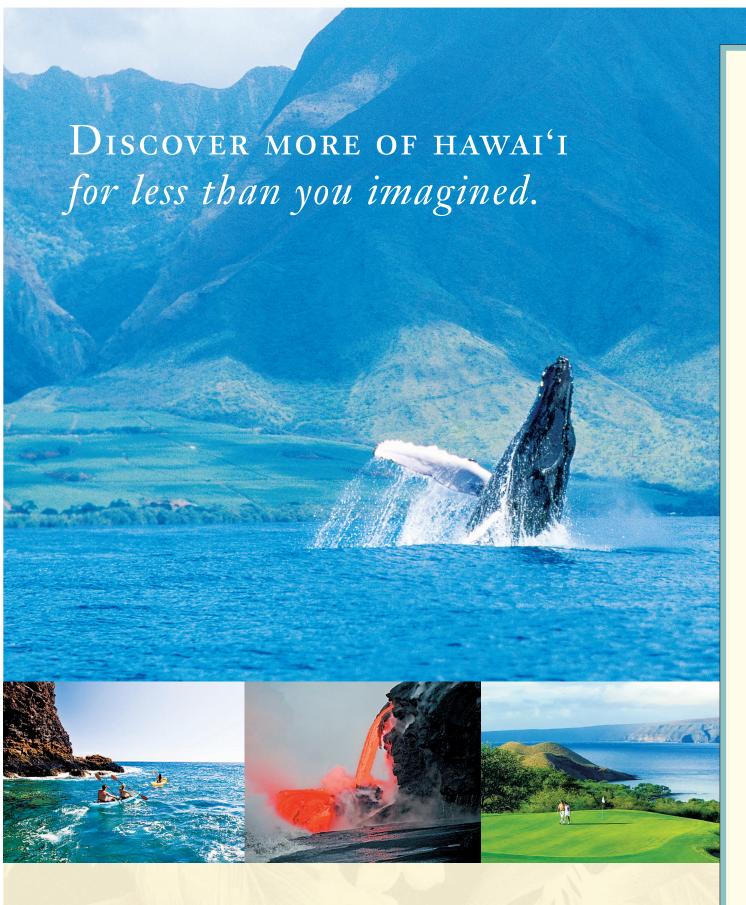
Eco Ganik scarf tee, \$86



Prices and availability subject to change.

Pale Ale







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Pleasant Holidays,





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Security simplified

The Washington Post

Have a few world travelers on your gift list this holiday? Make life easier for them with these ideas that will make going through airport security a breeze.

Prices and availability subject to change.

Targus Zip-Thru Air Traveler laptop case

\$80 at targus.com, bestbuy.com and retailers such as Staples
Skip the conveyor-belt tray and minimize the trauma to an expensive computer. The multi-pocketed carrier opens like a book and has a protected section on one side for a computer, eliminating the need to remove a PC at security. Once through the X-ray machine, simply zip and fly.



Envirosax bags

\$8.50 at envirosax.com

These waterproof polyester bags measure 19.5 by 16.5 inches and can carry up to 44 pounds, but they squish down so small (about 4 by 1.5 inches) that they'll fit into any suitcase, purse or briefcase for unexpected souvenir shopping or, more often, a lastminute dash to the grocery store.

Minimus gift certificate

In increments of \$25, minimus.biz

Those who bemoan the drugstore's paltry trial-size selection need a gift certificate from **minimus.biz**, an online company dedicated to all things small and TSA-approved. Products cover all facets of life on the road, from eating (squeezable packets of PB&J, hummus on the go) to toiletries (sunscreen packets or tubes, after-shave lotion) to miscellaneous (shoe polish, bug repellent wipes).

RedEye Gift Guide

Travel slippers

\$10 at Brookstone stores or brookstone.com
No more sweeping the airport floor with your
naked feet. Dress up heels and toes in n-a-p
Travel Slippers. The soft, bootie-like footwear
has more heart and hug than the airport's
disposable models, and they work well for inflight naps and on hotel carpets.





Paper soap, Paper shampoo, Paper laundry soap and shaving paper

\$6 for 30 sheets at flight001.com or spoonsisters.com
These business-card sheets dissolve quickly in
water, create a nice lather and are small enough
to tuck in a pocket. Plus, they eliminate bulky
shampoo and shaving cream bottles, freeing up
your quart-sized liquids baggie for other things,
like duty-free mini bottles of rum and hot sauce.



Soft-Touch dispensers

\$1.29 each at Container Store or containerstore.com Bulky toiletry bottles take up premium space in a quart-size, zip-top baggie; so use that coveted real estate wisely. Three-ounce holders are shaped like holiday light bulbs and are more pliable and stackable than hard-plastic holders. Colored caps help deter travelers from shampooing with sunscreen.



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RedEye Gift Guide



Game on

By Ryan Smith

FOR REDEYE

Moviegoers may have the luxury of enjoying the long, lazy summer to take in Hollywood's blockbusters, but gamers have no such luck. Since the video game industry tries so hard to strike holiday gold, most of the heavy hitters typically are squeezed into the shopping-friendly period between Oct. 1 and Thanksgiving. This year is no exception. Gamers can harvest a bumper crop of quality games from store shelves.



NBA2K9

\$59.99 / PS3, XB360 / Rated E for Everyone
I nearly shed a tear after playing my first game of
NBA2K9, because I never got to play a game this great
when NBA stars Michael Jordan and Larry Bird were in
their prime. NBA2K9 is visually stunning, with a nearly
inexhaustible supply of options. The brightest highlight
perhaps is the Total Team Control mode, which lets
you play online with nine other players for true 5-on-5
basketball. This one is a slam dunk.



Quantum of Solace

\$59.99/PS3, XB360/Rated T for Teen
Activision's Quantum of Solace is the best Bond game since the Nintendo 64 classic GoldenEye. Especially noteworthy is a multiplayer mode that lets you play as Agent 007 while other players online suit up as a gang of baddies trying to take Bond down. QoS lets you indulge all of your super spy fantasies not involving sexy Bond girls.



Rock Band 2

\$59.99 for game only / Wii, PS3, XB360 / Rated T In the Rock Band versus Guitar Hero debate, give the slight edge for now to Rock Band 2 over Guitar Hero: World Tour—despite RB2's inferior plastic instruments. Rock Band 2 has a bigger song selection, better presentation and is more user-friendly. Rock Band 2 truly rocks.



Fallout 3

\$59.99 / PS3, XB360, PC / Rated M for Mature

If you still believe role-playing video games are for

Dungeons and Dragons-obsessed geeks, Fallout 3

might change your mind. Set in a post-apocalyptic

Washington, D.C., a century after a nuclear war ravaged
the world, Fallout 3 is a thinking man's action game,
with plenty of morally ambiguous decisions that affect
your character and the world around you. Its part Mad
Max, part Elder Scrolls: Oblivion and all awesome.



Spider-Man: Web of Shadows

\$59.99 / XB360, PS3 / Rated T

Activision's new game featuring the neighborhood friendly superhero plays so similar to another roaming "sandbox"-type game you could almost call it Grand Theft Spider. But swinging from rooftop to rooftop via webs is way better than driving a car, and the company of Mary Jane and Moon Knight is certainly preferable to a chubby Ukrainian cousin.

RYAN SMITH IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

Prices and availability subject to change.

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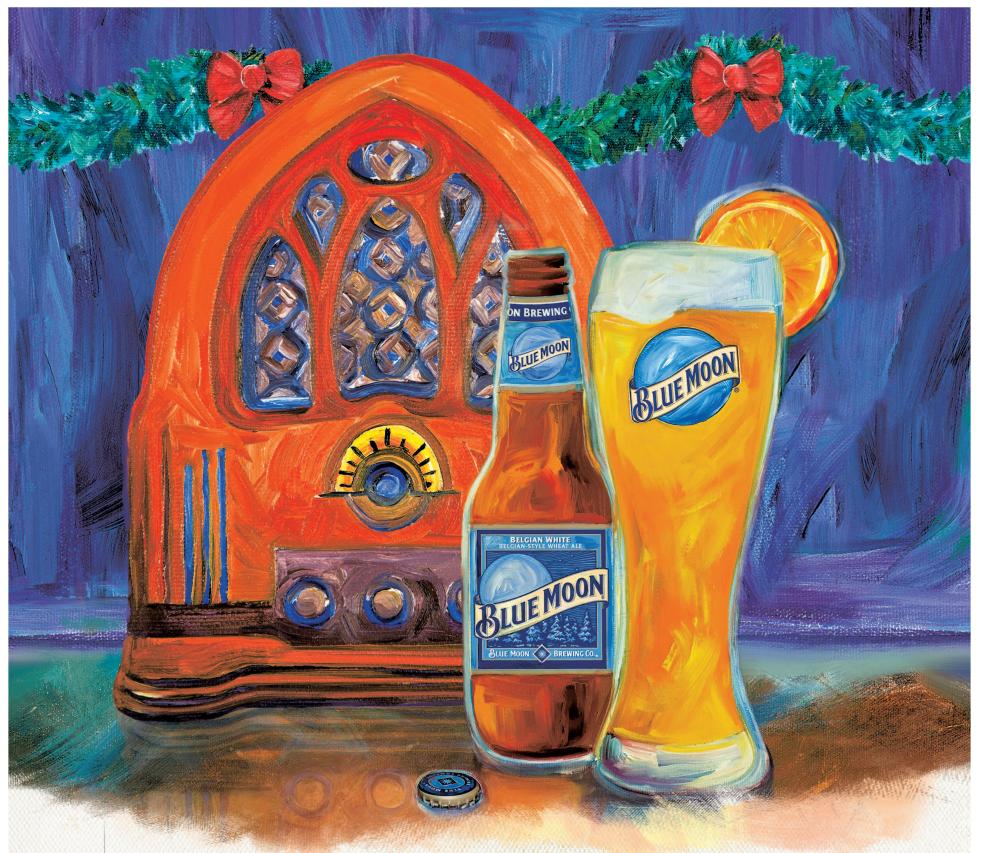
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RedEye Gift Guide

Prices and availability subject to change.

iStik

\$26.95 at goistik.com
For iPod users who literally are
on-the-go, the iStik is a carrying
case that uses a fancy magnet
technology to let you stick your
iPod anywhere on your body.
Well, almost anywhere.





Balanzza digital luggage scale

\$24.95 at balanzza.com/store Considering that many airlines keep jacking up the cost of having overweight luggage, this little scale might come in handy.





The Ergonizer

\$29.99 at theergonizer.com

Your desktop probably looks like ours—pens, paper and gadgets everywhere. You don't have to be a slob to enjoy The Ergonizer, a device that attaches to your monitor and neatly holds your cell phone, pens, keys and even a flower.

Budget buys

By Ryan Smith FOR REDEYE

Not all electronics and gadgets are big-ticket items—although it's fun to dream, right? Here are four cool gifts that will make your gadget guru smile. RYANSMITHIS A REDEVE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.

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Javier Hernandez, MBA on-campus in Wheeling



Toni Johnson, MBA on-site at Children's Memorial Hospital



Herminia Alvarado, MBA in her community at El Valor

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63

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- 21 22 23 25 Washington bill Silvery fish
- Steeple toppers
- Fencers' foils
- Starts a new lawn
- Forest unit Put on the feed bag 29 31
- Instrument of title 34
- Carnegie or Mellon Ella's forte 38
- Proficient New Italian bread 40 42
- Exhilaration
- 45 New Jersey team
- Knight's address Dollar value
- 48 Dolla 50 Cut
- Selects
- 52 55 57 Meaning White heron
- 58 "The Bells" poet
- 59 Hang loosely 63 Landed
- Agitate Stand in a studio 64 65
- Show up
- Sit for an artist 67
- Religious practices
- 69 Worked the land 70 Mimicked
- Twin Falls river

DOWN

- Rip off
- Water sport
- Tel _-Jaffa, Israel Make extensive
- changes

Countersigned River through Paris

23

39

48

- 8 Most rational Afore
- Run wild en masse 10
- Blender selection Male relative
- 13 Brooding places
- Observed
- 24 26 Paragons
- Remainder
 - Per pop
- 28 Have the lead role 30 Noisemaker
- 33 Lair

58

64

67

15

18

- Hurry it up
- Toledo's lake Unit of a language 36 37
- 39 Cited for a moving
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- 41 Harassed
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- First-rate
- 51 52 Overtax Dilly

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- Ice residence Kind of wave
- or scene

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- Sneak a quick look Do it or _! 61
- Health resort

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EFFEN IS A FIVE-LETTER WORD?

Who ville BY JIM WALSH

The replacements

TV stars no strangers to revolving doors on several popular shows

Laurence Fishburne makes his debut Thursday on "CSI" as criminal pathologist Dr. Raymond Langston. In January, he'll become the show's lead character, replacing William Petersen's Gil Grissom. (Petersen wanted to pursue more

stage-acting opportunities, mostly with Chicago's Steppenwolf Theatre, but Grissom may make an occasional guest appearance.) In the spirit of "CSI's" revolving door, we've compiled a few other notable TV switcheroos. Newsday contributed.

OLDIES BUT GOLDIES

Here's a look at few replacements from shows back in the day.

- » Dick York/Dick Sargent on "Bewitched" (1969) –York had to leave his role as Darrin Stephens because of a chronic back condition.
- » McLean Stevenson/ Harry Morgan on "M*A*S*H" (1975) -Col. Henry Blake was written out of the CBS series when Stevenson signed a long-term contract

with NBC.

- » Farrah Fawcett/ Cheryl Ladd on "Charlie's Angels" (1977)-Fawcett-Majors (as she then was known) shot to stardom during the show's first season as Jill Munroe and subsequently decided to seek fame and fortune in the movies.
- » David Caruso/ Jimmy Smits on "NYPD Blue" (1994) -Caruso thought he was destined to become the big screen's next Bruce Willis, so he bolted after his breakout season.

The Office

IN: Paul Lieberstein (right) as Toby Flenderson

OUT: Amy Ryan as Holly Flax

THE DETAILS: Holly replaced Toby as the human resources representative for a multiepisode arc that featured a nerdy romance between her and the boss man, Michael Scott (Steve Carell).



McKidd

Grey's Anatomy IN: Kevin McKidd as Dr. Owen Hunt

OUT: Brooke Smith as Dr. Erica Hahn. Maybe T.R. Knight as Dr. George O'Malley?

THE DETAILS: Smith's character got the boot from the show last month, sparking speculation that it was because she and Dr. Callie Torres were an item. Rumor has it Knight wants out of his contract. Oh, and it looks like McKidd, who joined the cast this season, is sticking around for a while.



Mitchell

Ghost Whisperer IN: Kenneth Mitchell as Sam (sorta)

OUT: David Conrad as Jim Clancy (sorta)

THE DETAILS: When Melinda Gordon's (Jennifer Love Hewitt) husband Jim kicked the bucket last month, his character was kept on in the form of a ghost only Gordon can see. Mitchell makes the occasional appearance as Sam to remind viewers that Gordon's hubby is in someone else's body.

_aw and Order

IN: The current casts of the show and its spinoffs

OUT: Just about everyone who ever starred in "L&O" at any point in the past THE DETAILS: The long-running drama, which has been on the air in some way, shape or form for way more than a decade, famously features a rotating cast of characters. If we listed 'em all, we'd be here all day.



Tennant

Doctor Who

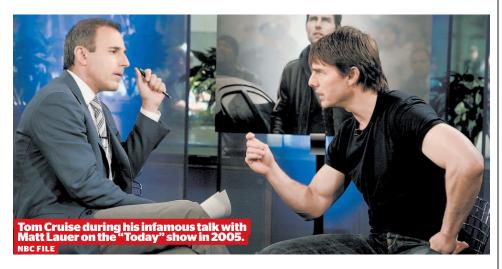
IN: David Tennant, for now **OUT:** All those other dudes

THE DETAILS: For a show that's been running for more than 40 years, it hasn't done too bad for itself by replacing Dr. Who every so often. Tennant is the current man of the sci-fi hit, but rumor has it he's itching to leave. Thank goodness Dr. Who is able to transform his appearance!



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Let's be friends

Tom Cruise seems to be over his beef with Matt Lauer. More than three years after he famously called Lauer "glib," the actor will sit down with Lauer for a live interview, airing Monday on NBC's "Today" show, **usmagazine.com** reported. Cruise is expected to chat about his latest historical thriller, "Valkyrie," and his family, a show rep announced Wednesday.



Braxton medical update

Toni Braxton said she had a tumor removed from her breast just a week before the Nov. 25 "Dancing with the Stars" finale, keeping her from the show. "I was worried about what they would find. But it was benign," the 41-year-old singer told Us magazine. Doctors discovered the lump during a routine checkup in August.

Ruffalo slaying suspect cleared

The woman who was arrested and released in connection to the shooting death of Mark Ruffalo's brother, Scott Ruffalo. was a client of the hairdresser, an attorney for Shaha Mishaal Adham told "Access Hollywood." The connection between Scott Ruffalo, who died Monday, and Adham was previously unknown. Adham was cleared of any wrongdoing in the case. Her lawyer said Adham was present when Ruffalo shot himself during a game of Russian roulette.

Stand by your woman

If you're gonna hate on Angelina Jolie, expect to have words with Brad Pitt. In the new issue of Rolling Stone, according to people.com, Pitt comes to his love's defense over a recent New York Times article that "made Angie out to be manipulative in some way."

Father's day

Ricky Martin is showing off the first photos of his twin boys, who were born last summer to a surrogate mother, in the upcoming issue of People. "Being a father feels amazing," he said.

txtable

Celebrity twin

Do you look like a celebrity? Show us! Send your picture along with the name of the celeb who shares your style to **dlhernandez@tribune.com**. For Thursday, we have Aiesha Burks. Think she's a ringer for Terri Vaughn? Text "**twin**" and the number of your opinion to **47383**. You'll get the poll results instantly.

1. DEAD ON 2. WAY OFF



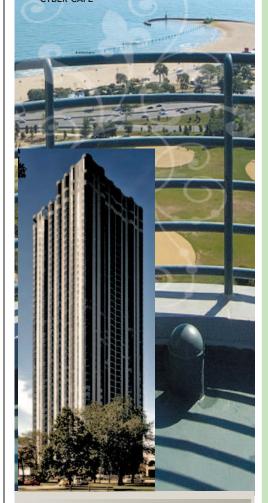


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Sean of the Sean

Sean Penn might want to start working on his Academy Awards acceptance speech.

The "Milk" star has some serious momentum after the New York Film Critics Circle named him best actor Wednesday for his portrayal of Harvey Milk, the country's first openly gay elected official. A day earlier, he re-

ceived the same honor from the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. The awards are sure to ramp up the buzz that Penn could win his second Oscar for best actor. Oscar nominations will be announced Jan. 22; the awards show is Feb. 22.

1 THE VELVET ROPE

Get bitten

Take that, Twilighters.

J.K. Rowling's latest book, "The Tales of Beedle the Bard," has topped USA Today's best-selling books, knocking off Stephenie Meyer's latest teen vampire novel, "Breaking Dawn." "Bard," a collection of five fairy tales, is Rowling's first book since she finished her "Harry Potter" series.



Piven

That's gold, baby Call him Ari Gold,

Call him Ari Gold, call him Jeremy Piven, just don't call him to be your agent. "A lot of fans scream 'Ari!' at me. It doesn't

annoy me. I go right over, tell them my real name and that I'm just the actor who plays Ari," Piven told the New York Daily News.

"The best are the other actors who tell me they've fired their agent because they want a rep who's more like Ari," he said. "All you can do is try to tell them not to base real-life decisions on fictional characters."

Can't we all just hug it out?

505,000



Copies of Britney Spears' "Circus" sold last week, putting her back on top of the Billboard 200, accord-

ing to figures released Wednesday.

These stars are on top

It was a good year for Leona Lewis and TV on the Radio. The "Bleeding Love" singer was named Billboard's Top New Artist of the Year. Billboard cited the 23-year-old British songstress as being 2008's best-selling new artist and the year's No. 5 best-selling artist

worldwide. She's also up for three Grammy

Meanwhile, on the other end of the pop music spectrum, TV on the Radio's "Dear Science" landed the No. 1 spot on Rolling Stone magazine's top 50 albums of 2005.



No. One

Britney Spears has reached No.1 five times. Was last year's "Blackout," which came amid Britney Spears' very public meltdown, one of them? Text "blackout" and the number of your response to 47383. You'll get a text back telling you whether you were right or wrong.

1. Yes

2. No

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